

Read on.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the parties fighting World War I signed an armistice that ended four years of devastating conflict.

On this historically important day, it is right that America honors its military veterans as well as those who remain in active service.

But there is more. Let us not forget their families and the sacrifices they make while their loved ones serve.

On average, military families move around the country once every three years. These families must adjust to new living quarters, schools, and even unfair regulations that govern career opportunities for civilian members in a family with a service member.

States are now requiring more and more occupations to be licensed, which means that these family members of service members who move from state to state must seek government permission each time they are relocated in order to continue working in their chosen field.

Almost three-fourths of military spouses who have an occupational license have to get a new license when they move to another state.

For military families, this burden is a true economic burden and hardship. They are being penalized for having to move between states. Some state licensing requirements and processes take almost as long to complete as a family may be stationed in that state. The result of these policies is that the unemployment rate of military spouses has increased far faster than among comparable civilians.

We are actively working to remedy this injustice in Ohio, and will then begin pushing to do so in other states.

The Buckeye Institute is proud to honor our military families and veterans by issuing our latest policy brief explaining how the state of Ohio can help reform these unjust regulations. The solution is commonsense: allow workers in military families to practice their profession in Ohio by recognizing out of state licensing. Recognizing their existing credentials means that if they are licensed in another state,

Ohio will consider them respectively licensed in Ohio and they will be allowed to work here without further schooling or hoops to jump through.

Today and everyday, but especially tomorrow, we need to honor our military families and veterans. Here at The Buckeye Institute, we insist that the family members of service members have their experience, education, and sacrifices counted too.

Please join us by supporting our work to end this terrible injustice against military spouses and family members who sacrifice so much as they are moved from state to state.

Now is the time for Ohio to give jobs and dignity back to those who give the most for us.

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BACKGROUND: Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution--a think tank--whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.

The Buckeye Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit, and tax-exempt organization, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, it relies on support from individuals, corporations, and foundations that share a commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and limited government. The Buckeye Institute does not seek or accept government funding.

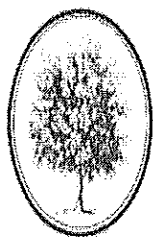
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 5:05 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Lunch today on civil asset forfeiture



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Reminder: please join us for a lunch The Buckeye Institute is co-hosting today in the Ohio Statehouse at 11:30 where we will be discussing the important issue of civil asset forfeiture reform. Further details are below, and if you need further convincing, City Barbeque is catering it for us.

We hope you can make it!

One of the primary functions of government is to protect property rights. But what happens when government itself is threatening your property?

Civil asset forfeiture laws, as currently written, actually allow government to take property from individuals who have never been charged with a crime and never will be.

Policymakers are considering reforms that would go a long way to secure property rights of innocent Ohioans, and The Buckeye Institute is leading that charge.

The Buckeye Institute is co-sponsoring a luncheon--details below--and cordially invites you to come and learn more about the problems with current civil asset forfeiture laws and to hear some policy solutions.

Buckeye's own lawyer and Criminal Justice Fellow is moderating the panel discussion and lunch is provided.



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



FOR A LUNCHEON DISCUSSION ON HOW

**Ohio Can Improve Private Property Rights
and Constitutional Rights by Reforming
Civil Asset Forfeiture**

MODERATED BY DANIEL DEW OF THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

DATE:
TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 15

TIME:
11:30 A.M. TO
12:30 P.M.

**LOCATION:
OHIO STATE HOUSE
IN THE STATE ROOM**

LUNCH CATERED BY CITY BARBEQUE

QUESTIONS OR TO RSVP
please email Michael Hough at mike@ffcoalition.com

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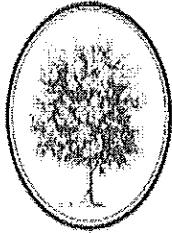
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 7:41 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: New Policy Briefs on Civil Asset Forfeiture and Expanding Healthcare



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Greg Lawson, Senior Policy Analyst
(614) 224-4422 or Greg@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 15, 2016

Defending Property Rights and Expanding Healthcare in Ohio

COLUMBUS, OHIO--On Tuesday, The Buckeye Institute released Policy Briefs on two important issues for the General Assembly to address in its "lame duck" session.

First, an overwhelming majority of Ohioans favor reforming Ohio's civil asset forfeiture laws in order to better protect private property, rebuild trust between law enforcement and communities, and enhance government transparency. Civil asset forfeiture allows the government to take ownership of a citizen's private property through a *civil* lawsuit on suspicion that the property was part of *criminal* activity. Shockingly, Ohio law allows assets to be forfeited to the state ***without*** a criminal conviction. The Buckeye Institute's new Policy Brief explains how to reform asset forfeiture rules without impeding law enforcement's need to seize property used for criminal activity.

Second, as the demand for quality healthcare exceeds Ohio's supply of doctors and nurses, policymakers must find effective ways to improve access to healthcare for low-income Ohioans. With the cost of treatment rising, even basic medical care remains unaffordable for many lower-income communities. Ohio's Medicaid expansion will not solve this problem--especially as the new Congress and Trump Administration begin to revise federal healthcare policy.

The Buckeye Institute's Policy Brief explains how "charity care" may help alleviate some of the supply-and-demand pressure that leads to higher medical bills. Unfortunately, medical practitioners have little incentive to provide charitable, low- or no-cost treatment. To encourage more "charity care," policymakers should award continuing education credits to healthcare professionals who provide charitable treatment to Ohio's underserved populations. The state should also relax several regulatory restrictions on Ohio's licensed nurses in order to expand the pool of care providers available to the poor.

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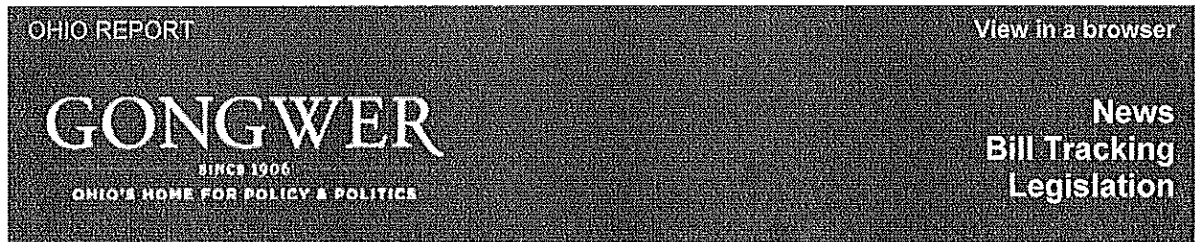
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2016 2:54 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Ohio Report, Tuesday, November 22, 2016
Attachments: Nov22Senate.htm; Nov23Schedule.htm; Nov22.htm; 161122dayplan.htm



OHIO REPORT TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Senate Hears Mixed Review Of Energy Freeze Bill; Early December Committee Vote Eyed

Senate Panel Takes Up Ignition Interlock Device Measure

Proponents Urge Senate Support For Ohio EPA Updates

Committee Chair Raises Concerns About Insurance Bill

Medical Board Closes Investigation Into Dayton Abortion Clinic

Buckeye Institute Touts Charity Care; OSMA Launches Opioid Campaign; Innovation Ohio Eyes Food Insecurity

Farmers Union Prices Thanksgiving Dinner; AG Warns On Holiday Shopping Scams; DSW Sales Up

Governor's Appointment

Attorney General's Opinion

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Senate Committee Hearings

Energy & Natural Resources

Insurance

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Senate

CALENDARS

Day Planner

Legislative Committee Schedules

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Senate Activity for Tuesday, November 22, 2016

INTRODUCED

SB 369 ■ **ROAD NAMING** (Patton, T., Manning, G.) To designate a portion of Interstate Route 90 in Cuyahoga County as the "Patrol Trooper Kenneth Velez Memorial Highway." Am. 5534.46

SB 370 ■ **LICENSE PLATE** (Patton, T.) To create the "University of Notre Dame" license plate. Am. 4501.21 and to enact section 4503.514

SB 371 ■ **COUNTY PROSECUTORS** (Thomas, C.) To prohibit prosecuting attorneys of counties with a population of 400,001 or more from engaging in the private practice of law. Am. 309.02 and 325.11

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Click the ■ after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Legislative Committee Schedules beginning 11/23/2016

Monday, November 28

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Amstutz, R., 466-1474), Rm. 119, 10:30 a.m.
Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), Finance Hearing Rm., 2 p.m.

- SB 136** SCHOOL SECLUSION (Tavares, C.) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 346** SCHOOL YEAR (Manning, G.) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 89** MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (DeVitis, T.) Regarding the Medicaid School Program. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 383** FINANCIAL LITERACY (Hagan, C., McColley, R.) To require one-half unit of economic and financial literacy in the high school social studies curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each state institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and to entitle the act the "Informed Student Document Act." (2nd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 85** ABUSE PREVENTION (Ramos, D., Hagan, C.) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Tuesday, November 29

House State Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Maag, R., 644-6023), Rm. 113, 9 a.m.

- SB 227** ATTORNEY GENERAL (Bacon, K.) To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)
House Agriculture & Rural Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Hill, B., 644-6014), Rm. 116, 9 a.m.
- HR 214** PHOSPHORUS AGREEMENT (Sheehy, M., Fedor, T.) To encourage support for the agreement between Ontario, Michigan and Ohio regarding the reduction of phosphorus in the western basin of Lake Erie. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 566** NURSERY STOCK (Ramos, D.) To prohibit the labeling and advertising of nursery stock as pollinator beneficial under specified conditions (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
House Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Brenner, A., 466-6711), Rm. 017, 9 a.m.
- HB 498** STUDENT EXPULSIONS (Kunze, S.) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 372 **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (Phillips, D.)** To require city, exempted village, and local school districts to employ, for each 1,000 students, at least five full-time equivalent educational service personnel in specified areas. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
House Insurance (Committee Record) (Chr. Brinkman, T., 644-6886), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

SB 27 **FIREFIGHTER CANCER (Patton, T.)** To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)

HB 394 **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Sears, B.)** To temporarily change the taxable wage base under Ohio's Unemployment Compensation Law, to remove dependency classes for unemployment compensation benefit eligibility, to temporarily freeze automatic increases for weekly unemployment compensation benefit amounts, to reduce the number of weeks for which an individual may receive unemployment compensation benefits, to abolish the Unemployment Compensation Advisory Council, and to make other changes to Ohio's Unemployment Compensation Law. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)
House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Dever, J., 466-8120), Rm. 122, 9 a.m.

HB 593 **CROWDFUNDING (Arndt, S.)** To permit intrastate equity crowdfunding under certain circumstances. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 598 **LOAN ACT (Terhar, L.)** To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

HB 616 **BANKING LAW (Amstutz, R.)** For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio. (1st Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)
Senate Agriculture (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of S. Craig Beam, Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund Advisor Council; Kelly Cole, Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation; Cy Prettyman, Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board and Michael Frazier and Gregory Levens, Dangerous & Restricted Animals Advisory Board

SB 151 **DOGS LAW (Beagle, B.)** To revise provisions of the Dogs Law governing nuisance, dangerous, and vicious dogs, to revise enforcement of that Law, and to establish a notification process regarding complaints of certain violations of that Law. (4th Hearing-Opponent)

SB 224 **AGRICULTURE LAWS (Brown, E.)** To revise the application and enforcement of the law governing operation and management plans, and to require certain animal feeding facilities to annually report the amount of manure that is applied by or for the facilities. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 271 **POLICE ANIMALS (Gentile, L.)** To authorize a law enforcement officer to purchase a police dog or horse for fair market value when the officer retires in good standing from a law enforcement agency and certain conditions are met, and to declare an emergency. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 018, 9:30 a.m.

- HB 561** **PARK COMMISSIONERS (Boccieri, J., Clyde, K.)** To require boards of county commissioners to appoint additional park board commissioners and allow for public comment during appointment process. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 562** **MAIL DELIVERY (Hambley, S., Ryan, S.)** To authorize local governments and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 576** **PUBLIC RECORDS (Ryan, S.)** To exempt from the Public Records Act financial account numbers and identifying information in public records and to provide that taxpayer electronic mail address lists used by county treasurers to deliver tax bills are not public records. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 466-8082), North Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointment of Thomas Pascarella, Ohio Retirement Study Council

- SB 347** **PRIMARY ELECTIONS (LaRose, F.)** To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary of state is not required to hold a primary election. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 322** **POLICE TRAINING (Hite, C.)** To require the Ohio peace officer training commission to develop and conduct a chief of police training course for newly appointed chiefs of police appointed on or after January 1, 2017, and to require newly appointed chiefs of police of villages, cities, and townships to attend the training course within six months of appointment as a chief of police. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 306** **DAY DESIGNATION (Yuko, K.)** To designate July 8 as "Harrison Dillard Day." (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 440** **AWARENESS DAY (Anielski, M.)** To designate the Saturday before Thanksgiving as "Ohio Survivors of Suicide Loss Day." (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 276** **CHIROPRACTORS (Schuring, K.)** To authorize chiropractors to engage in certain activities involving nutrition-related items and therapies, nonprescription drugs, and medical goods and devices. (2nd Hearing-proponent)
- HB 423** **MILITARY RECORDS (Perales, R.)** To specify that an order for active military service or other documentation regarding the call to order of an individual in the Armed Forces of the United States or the Ohio organized militia is not a public record. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 167** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION (Sweeney, M.)** Regarding the term of a General Assembly member as a member of the Legislative Service Commission. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 10 a.m.
- SB 331** **PET STORES (Peterson, B.)** To regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and dog retailers and to require the Director of Agriculture to license pet stores. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 235 PROPERTY TAXES (Beagle, B., Coley, B.) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & substitute)
House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 11 a.m.
Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.
Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 11:15 a.m.

SB 335 AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES (Patton, T.) To regulate non-bank automated teller machines. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 355 LOAN ACT (Peterson, B.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Transportation & Infrastructure (Committee Record) (Chr. Boose, T., 466-9628), Rm. 018, 1 p.m. or after session

- Agenda to be announced

House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Schaffer, T., 466-8100), Rm. 121, 1:30 p.m. or after session

HB 482 PROPERTY TAXES (Dever, J.) To change the calculation of the exempt value of improved property subject to a community reinvestment area exemption, to clarify the calculation of the exempt value of property subject to a brownfield remediation exemption, and to authorize the filing of a complaint with the county auditor challenging the assessed value of fully or partially exempt property. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 592 INVESTMENT COMPANIES (Merrin, D.) To subject small business investment companies to the commercial activity tax rather than the financial institutions tax. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 612 DISASTER BUSINESS EXEMPTION (Ryan, S.) To exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Blessing, L., 466-9091), Rm. 114, 1:30 p.m. or after session

SB 206 CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS (LaRose, F.) To require certain campaign committees and other entities to file campaign finance statements electronically and to require the Secretary of State to make the information in those statements available online. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 613 SUNSET REVIEW LAW (Amstutz, R.) To revise and renew the Sunset Review Law, to require that a Sunset Review Committee be convened to function during each oddnumbered General Assembly, and to declare an emergency. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)

HB 619 STATE PROPERTY CONVEYANCES (Rezabek, J.) To authorize the conveyance of, and the granting of perpetual easements to, state-owned real property. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral)

SB 273 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (Bacon, K.) To enact the Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 329 SUNSET REVIEW (Jordan, K., Faber, K.) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 591 SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Pelanda, D.) To eliminate the requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 539 NEW AMERICANS (Boyce, K.) To create the office for New Americans. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 536 STATEHOUSE VIDEO (Fedor, T.) To require the Ohio Government Telecommunications Service to broadcast live, with video and audio content, all General Assembly committee meetings and to name this act the Wire the Statehouse Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HR 192 VOTING RIGHTS ACT (Clyde, K., Reece, A.) Commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HR 206 CONFEDERATE FLAG (Sykes, E., Reece, A.) To urge the powers of the governments that continue to make issuances containing the confederate flag to discontinue this practice, to urge the powers of the governments that fly the confederate flag or any flag containing imagery of the confederate flag on public property to remove those flags in question, to urge the powers of governments that have official state flags that contain imagery derived from the confederate flag to commence in the process of redesigning the official state flag immediately, to urge South Carolina's General Assembly to direct removal of the confederate flag from state property and to urge Ohio retailers to remove from inventory any confederate flag merchandise. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 179 VOTER REGISTRATION (Stinziano, M., Sykes, E.) To require that eligible persons in the database of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically, as applicable, unless those persons decline to be registered or to update their registrations. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
House Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. Young, R., 644-6074), Rm. 122, 2 p.m. or after session

HB 601 MICROBUSINESS (Pelanda, D.) To create a statutory definition of "microbusiness." (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 574 USED TIRES (Sprague, R., DeVitis, T.) To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments available at <http://www.gongwer-oh.com/public/130/finconfirm.pdf>

HB 435 STATE FINANCING (McClain, J.) To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public

entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 230 **ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS** (Schiavoni, J.) With regard to the operation of academic distress commissions and to modify the earmarked funding for the establishment of academic distress commissions. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 384 **HIGHER EDUCATION AUDITS** (Schaffer, T., Duffey, M.) To specify that state institutions of higher education may be subject to performance audits conducted by the Auditor of State. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

SB 317 **BANKING LAWS** (Hughes, J., Coley, B.) For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote) Senate Health & Human Services (Committee Record) (Chr. Jones, S., 466-9737), North Hearing Rm., 3 p.m. or after session

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Stephanie Loucka, Director of the Department of Aging; Billy Anderson, Jr., Ashok Das, Michael Ginder and Kumar Subramanian, D.D.S., State Dental Board; Raymond Mancini, John Patton, III, James Armile and John Stainbrook, Ohio Athletic Commission; Michael Aquillo, Ohio Respiratory Care Board; Michael Pratt, Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Licensing Board; Ronan Factora, State Medical Board; Paul Schoonover, Chemical Dependency Professionals Board; Christopher Taylor, Ohio Board of Dietetics; Fred Weaver, Kilee Yarosh, Timothy Bechtold, State Board of Pharmacy; Jason Dapore, Hollie Kozak, Chad Miller and Jennifer Wissinger, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board.

HB 216 **NURSES** (Pelanda, D.) To revise the law governing advanced practice registered nurses. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

HB 285 **PRESCRIPTION REFILLS** (Sprague, R.) To authorize pharmacists to dispense multiple refills of a prescription simultaneously under certain circumstances. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 470 **PALLIATIVE CARE FACILITIES** (Schuring, K.) Regarding palliative care facilities. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 42 **OUTPATIENT TREATMENT** (Beagle, B.) Regarding minors and outpatient mental health treatment. (5th Hearing-All testimony)

SB 314 **HOSPITAL CARE** (Lehner, P.) To provide for the designation of a lay person to provide after-care to a hospital inpatient and participate in discharge planning. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

HB 290 **TERMINAL PATIENTS** (Sprague, R., Anielski, M.) To permit a physician to treat a terminally ill patient with a drug that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration and permit a drug manufacturer to provide such a drug to the patient or physician. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

HB 505 **BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS** (Huffman, S., Pelanda, D.) Regarding the regulation of biological products and the substitution of interchangeable biological products when dispensed by pharmacists. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party-Possible amendments)

House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety (Committee Record) (Chr. Johnson, T., 466-2124), Rm. 017, 3:30 p.m.

- HB 464** NATIONAL GUARD SCHOLARSHIPS (Terhar, L., Brinkman, T.) To specify that a National Guard scholarship recipient who fails to complete the recipient's term of enlistment in the National Guard due to enlistment, warrant, commission, or appointment in the United States armed forces is not liable for repayment of the scholarship. (3rd Hearing-Possible substitute & vote)
- HB 105** MILITARY TRANSFERS (Craig, H., Perales, R.) To permit persons who quit work to accompany the person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- House Judiciary (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 116, 3:30 p.m.
- SB 284** EXPUNGEMENT (Obhof, L.) To provide that a person who is found not guilty of an offense by a jury or a court or who is the defendant named in a dismissed complaint, indictment, or information may apply to the court for an order to expunge the person's official records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or information or finding of not guilty was the result of the applicant having been a victim of human trafficking and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 257** REAL PROPERTY (Seitz, B., Skindell, M.) To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)
- HB 559** MEDICAL CLAIMS (Cupp, R.) To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster or mass hazard; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to provide that medical bills itemizing charges are inadmissible as evidence and a payment for medical services accepted by a defendant from an insurer is admissible as evidence of the reasonableness of the charges; to specify the manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide that any loss of a chance of recovery or survival by itself is not an injury, death, or loss for which damages may be recovered; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to require that governmental agencies that receive peer review committee records maintain their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim." (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)
- HB 602** DIGITAL ASSETS (Cupp, R., Rezabek, J.) To adopt the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)
- SB 299** PERRY COUNTY COURTS (Hottinger, J.) To create the Perry County Municipal Court in New Lexington on January 1, 2017, to establish one full-time judgeship in that court, to provide for the nomination of the judge by petition only, to abolish the Perry County County Court on that date, to designate the Perry County Clerk of Courts as

the clerk of the Perry County Municipal Court, and to provide for the election for the Perry County Municipal Court of one full-time judge in 2017. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 581

LLC REGULATIONS (Dever, J., Reineke, B.) To permit and regulate managers, members, and interests of series limited liability companies. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 139

POST-CONVICTION RELIEF (Seitz, B., Williams, S.) To require the clerk of a common pleas court to retain a copy of the original trial file when a death penalty is imposed, to specify that there is no page limit on petitions for postconviction relief in death penalty cases or in appeals of denials of such relief, to modify the time for filing an amended postconviction relief petition in death penalty cases, to provide for depositions and subpoenas during discovery in postconviction relief proceedings in death penalty cases, and to require a judge hearing a postconviction relief proceeding in a death penalty case to state specifically in the findings of fact and conclusions of law why each claim was either denied or granted. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 106

PUBLIC INDECENCY (Schaffer, T.) To require an offender who knowingly commits the offense of public indecency under certain circumstances involving conduct likely to be viewed by minors to register as a Tier I sex offender/child-victim offender. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

HB 283

DNA TESTING (Fedor, T.) To require DNA testing for misdemeanor convictions of voyeurism, public indecency, procuring, soliciting, loitering to engage in soliciting, and prostitution. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

House Community & Family Advancement (Committee Record) (Chr. Ginter, T., 466-8022), Rm. 114, 4 p.m.

SB 30

FAMILY STABILITY (Tavares, C.) To create the Ohio Family Stability Commission. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 286

MARRIAGE (Vitale, N.) To provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not required to solemnize a marriage and a religious society is not required to allow any building or property of the religious society to be used to host a marriage ceremony if the marriage does not conform to the ordained or licensed minister's or religious society's sincerely held religious beliefs, to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not subject to civil or criminal liability for such a denial, and to provide that the state and political subdivisions may not penalize or withhold benefits to an ordained or licensed minister or religious society for such a denial. (6th Hearing-All testimony)

HB 458

FOSTER CARE (Boyce, K., Rezabek, J.) To provide foster care maintenance payments for children in the care of a kinship caregiver without requiring the caregiver to be certified to provide foster care and to require, rather than permit, the creation of the statewide program of kinship care navigators. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 308

CHILD SUPPORT (Coley, B.) To amend the child support laws. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

- HB 618** **RECORD EXPUNGEMENT** (Schuring, K., Reece, A.) To provide for the expungement of official records related to the apprehension, arrest, criminal charging, or trial of a person based on mistaken identity. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), Finance Hearing Rm., 4 p.m.
- Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction, will testify on the revised English language arts and math learning standards pursuant to 3301.079 (J).

HB 410 **TRUANCY** (Rezabek, J., Hayes, B.) With regard to habitual and chronic truancy and compulsory school attendance. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 89 **MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM** (DeVitis, T.) Regarding the Medicaid School Program. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB 126 **OPEN ENROLLMENT** (Sawyer, T.) To terminate interdistrict open enrollment on that date with the possibility of renewal following the General Assembly's examination of the study's findings. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Wednesday, November 30

House Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Dovilla, M., 466-4895), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

HB 525 **911 CALLS** (Johnson, G.) To require multi-line telephone systems to have a default configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call to 9-1-1 without dialing any additional digit or code. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 589 **UTILITY RESELLING** (Duffey, M.) To permit the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules governing residential utility reselling. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 72 **PORT AUTHORITIES** (Conditt, M.) To authorize port authorities to create energy special improvement districts for the purpose of developing and implementing plans for special energy improvement projects and to alter the law governing such districts that are governed by a nonprofit corporation. (5th Hearing-Possible substitute)

HB 554 **RENEWABLE ENERGY** (Amstutz, R.) To revise the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency savings, and peak demand reduction and to revise provisions governing which customers can opt out of related programs. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Senate Health & Human Services (Committee Record) (Chr. Jones, S., 466-9737), North Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- Agenda to be announced
Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

SB 355 **LOAN ACT** (Peterson, B.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 10:15 a.m.

- Ferzan Ahmed, State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors; Andrew Bainbridge, JD, Ski Tramway Board; Kristine Burdick and Rowland Giller, III, Ohio Real Estate Commission; James Gasior and Michael Peterson, Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission; Stephanie Green, Janet Orosz and Richard Zaleski, Ohio Fair Plan Underwriting Association Board of Governors; W. Craig Zimpher, State Employment Relations Board; Bill Dingus, Chris Kershner and Christopher Powell, Transportation Review

Advisory Council; J. Richard Lumpe, State Employment Relations Board; Ross McGregor, State Personnel Board of Review; Scott Murray, Board of Motor Vehicle Repair; Thomas Needles, Motor Vehicle Dealers Board; Gary Siciliano, Motor Vehicle Salvage Dealers Licensing Board and George Snyder, State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services

- HB 341** **TRANSPORTATION LAWS** (Young, R., Sweeney, M.) To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law. (2nd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)
- HB 532** **REAL ESTATE SALES** (Smith, R.) Relating to real estate brokers and salespersons. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 345** **LICENSE PLATE** (Jones, S.) To create the Conquer Childhood Cancer license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 359** **LICENSE PLATE** (Uecker, J.) To create the Down Syndrome Awareness license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 361** **LICENSE PLATE** (Thomas, C.) To create the "Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness" license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 363** **LICENCE PLATE** (Oelslager, S.) To create the "Buckeye Corvette" license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 436** **DUI SENTENCES** (Cupp, R., Rogers, J.) To authorize a judge that grants limited driving privileges to a second-time OVI offender to order the termination of the mandatory immobilization order. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 455** **BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE** (Patterson, J., Roegner, K.) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)
- Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.
- Senate Criminal Justice (Committee Record) (Chr. Eklund, J., 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 11:15 a.m.
- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Larry Mincks, Sr. and Christopher Viland, Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission

- HB 172** **CRIMINAL RECORDS** (Barnes, J.) To enact the Fair and Accurate Reporting of Criminal Records Law, to require certain business entities that publish criminal record information to ensure that the information is complete and accurate, to provide a procedure by which a subject of published criminal record information may have incomplete or inaccurate information corrected or removed from the publication, and to provide remedies for the failure of a business entity to remove or correct incomplete or inaccurate information. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 237** **DRUG VOLUME** (LaRose, F.) To provide that five milligrams or more of fentanyl or an amount equal to or exceeding one gram of a compound, mixture, preparation, or

substance that contains any amount of fentanyl and that is not in a final dosage form manufactured by an authorized manufacturer constitutes a bulk amount for purposes of the laws governing drug offenses, to revise the manner of determining sentence for certain violations of the offense of permitting drug abuse, and to add lisdexamfetamine to the list of schedule II controlled substances. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 162 **DEATH SENTENCES (Seitz, B., Williams, S.)** To provide that a person convicted of aggravated murder who shows that the person had a serious mental illness at the time of committing the offense cannot be sentenced to death for the offense and to provide a mechanism for resentencing to a life sentence a person previously sentenced to death who proves that the person had a serious mental illness at the time of committing the offense. (7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 195 **SEXUAL CONDUCT (Hughes, J., Hottinger, J.)** To prohibit a person from engaging in sexual conduct with an animal and related acts, to provide for the seizure and impoundment of an animal that is the subject of a violation, and to authorize a sentencing court to require an offender to undergo psychological evaluation or counseling. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB 265 **CASINO OPERATORS (Seitz, B.)** To specify that the criminal penalty related to casino operators and employees participating in casino gaming applies at their casino facility or an affiliated casino facility. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 405 **IMPORTUNING (Schaffer, T., Smith, K.)** To amend the penalties for the offense of importuning. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 185 **ARSON (Koehler, K.)** To eliminate lack of the property owner's consent as an element of arson when the property is abandoned real property and to make the consent of the owner of abandoned real property an affirmative defense. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 521 **PAROLE ELIGIBILITY (Manning, N.)** To provide special parole eligibility dates for persons with an indefinite or life sentence imposed for an offense committed when the person was less than 18 years of age, to require the Parole Board to consider specified mitigating factors in those cases, and to require notice to the Ohio Public Defender and prosecuting attorney prior to the parole consideration hearing. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 439 **VOYEURISM (Anielski, M.)** To include an impaired person as a victim of voyeurism and to include conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 316 **SEXUAL IMPOSITION (Hughes, J.)** To increase the penalty for sexual imposition when the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of sexual imposition or other specified sex offenses. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

~~Canceled-House Session-(Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.~~

- If needed

Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
House State Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Maag, R., 644-6023), Rm. 121, 2:30 p.m.

- SB 227** ATTORNEY GENERAL (Bacon, K.) To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General. (2nd Hearing-Opponent-Possible amendment & vote)
- HB 577** LAME DUCK SESSIONS (Boose, T.) To prohibit the General Assembly from holding sessions after the general election in an even-numbered year. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HJR 7** BANKING FUNCTIONS (Sheehy, M., Ramos, D.) To urge the United States Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation that would reinstate the separation of commercial and investment banking function that was in effect under the Glass-Steagall Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 383** TRAIN CREWS (Sheehy, M., Lepore-Hagan, M.) To support the Federal Railroad Administration's proposed rule requiring trains operated in the United State to have at least a two-person crew. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 331** SAFETY BELTS (Phillips, D.) To require all passengers in automobiles to wear safety belts. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 344** CORPORATE BOARDS (Johnson, G., Boggs, K.) To urge equitable and diverse gender representation on the corporate boards of directors of companies based in Ohio. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 494** FIREARMS (Antonio, N., Boyd, J.) To require a court that issues a protection order to determine if the respondent is prohibited from carrying or possessing a firearm, to require a court to determine whether an offender who has been convicted of specified offenses is prohibited from carrying or possessing a firearm, and to require a respondent or offender who the court determines is prohibited from carrying or possessing a firearm to transfer all firearms in the person's possession to a law enforcement agency or a federally licensed firearms dealer. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 324** DAY DESIGNATION (Ramos, D.) To declare November 23rd as Fleet Admiral Ernest Joseph King Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 381** NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Ramos, D., Howse, S.) To require the Director of Job and Family Services to request a federal waiver of time limits for certain Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 332** REPLICIA VEHICLE TITLES (Patterson, J.) To provide that when a certificate of title is issued for a motor vehicle, the owner may request that the certificate indicate that the motor vehicle is a replica vehicle. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 330** EQUAL PAY CERTIFICATE (Howse, S., Clyde, K.) To require a contractor or person submitting a bid or other proposal for a state contract or a business entity applying for a grant or other economic incentive from a state agency to obtain an equal pay certificate, to require state agencies and political subdivisions to establish a job evaluation system to identify and eliminate sex-based wage disparities among classes of employees, and to prohibit an employer from retaliating against an employee who discusses the employee's salary or wage rate with another employee. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 337** DAY DESIGNATION (Clyde, K.) To designate the fourth Tuesday of September as Ohio Voter Registration Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 56** EQUAL PAY DAY (Fedor, T.) To recognize April 14, 2015, as Equal Pay Day to encourage public awareness of the gender wage gap. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 329** DAY DESIGNATION (Howse, S., Boyd, J.) To designate February 23 as Louis Stokes Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 519** LSC DUTIES (Howse, S.) To require the Director of the Legislative Service Commission to prepare a human impact statement concerning a bill or resolution that proposes to amend the law governing criminal justice. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HCR 23** DAY DESIGNATION (Howse, S.) To designate June 15, 2015, as Karamu House Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- Senate Agriculture (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), South Hearing Rm., 4:30 p.m.
- SB 271** POLICE ANIMALS (Gentile, L.) To authorize a law enforcement officer to purchase a police dog or horse for fair market value when the officer retires in good standing from a law enforcement agency and certain conditions are met, and to declare an emergency. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Thursday, December 1

Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- SB 355** LOAN ACT (Peterson, B.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 9:30 a.m.

- HB 341** TRANSPORTATION LAWS (Young, R., Sweeney, M.) To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law. (3rd Hearing-Proponent & interested party-Possible amendments & vote)

- HB 455** BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE (Patterson, J., Roegner, K.) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

- SB 202** FRONT LICENSE PLATE (Thomas, C.) To specify that failure to display a license plate on the front of a motor vehicle that is required to display a license plate on the front and rear of the vehicle is a secondary traffic offense, to establish a maximum fine of \$25 for such an offense, to name this act the "DuBose Was A Beacon Act," and to amend the version of section 4503.21 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2017, to continue the provisions of this act on and after that effective date. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 436** **DUI SENTENCES** ([Cupp, R.](#), [Rogers, J.](#)) To authorize a judge that grants limited driving privileges to a second-time OVI offender to order the termination of the mandatory immobilization order. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 236** **PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS** ([Landis, A.](#), [Blessing, L.](#)) To require professional engineers to complete continuing professional development hours in professional ethics or rules relevant to engineering or surveying practices. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 249** **ROOFING CONTRACTORS** ([Patton, T.](#)) To require commercial roofing contractors to have a license. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- House Finance (Committee Record) ([Chr. Smith, R.](#), 466-1366), Rm. 313, 10 a.m.
- SB 235** **PROPERTY TAXES** ([Beagle, B.](#), [Coley, B.](#)) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)
- SB 331** **PET STORES** ([Peterson, B.](#)) To regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and dog retailers and to require the Director of Agriculture to license pet stores. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)
- SB 319** **DRUG REGULATIONS** ([Eklund, J.](#)) To revise certain laws regarding the regulation of drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision of addiction services. (2nd Hearing-Possible substitute)
- SB 332** **INFANT MORTALITY** ([Jones, S.](#), [Tavares, C.](#)) To provide for the implementation of recommendations made by the Commission on Infant Mortality and to authorize pharmacists to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs. (2nd Hearing-Possible substitute)

Senate Session ([Chr. Faber, K.](#), 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 11 a.m.

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) ([Chr. Faber, K.](#), 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

Tuesday, December 6

House Session ([Chr. Rosenberger, C.](#), 466-3357), House Chamber, 11 a.m.

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) ([Chr. Faber, K.](#), 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.


Senate Session ([Chr. Faber, K.](#), 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 7

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) ([Chr. Faber, K.](#), 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

House Session ([Chr. Rosenberger, C.](#), 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Senate Session ([Chr. Faber, K.](#), 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

NOTE: Click bill or resolution number links to see the legislative history compiled by Gongwer News Service. Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill. Click "Full Text" if present to view the text of legislation on the Legislature's Web site.

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Volume #85, Report #225 -- Tuesday, November 22, 2016

Senate Hears Mixed Review Of Energy Freeze Bill; Early December Committee Vote Eyed

The state's top consumer utility advocate told a Senate panel Tuesday the renewable energy and energy efficiency benchmarks in a Senate bill are "reasonable."

But Ohio Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston said in testimony before the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee that he still has plenty of concerns with the proposal (SB 320).

Mr. Weston's was one of a trio of witnesses on both sides of the issue to appear before the committee during the bill's third hearing.

Questioned by Chairman Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville), Mr. Weston said that a 12.5% renewable energy benchmark for 2029 and beyond was reasonable in his view. As for the 17% benchmark for energy efficiency - which was reduced from the bill's earlier 22% - Mr. Weston said that number is on the lower end of "something I could accept as reasonable."

Sen. Balderson said in an interview he has no intention of holding a vote on the issue next week considering the holiday and the short notice interested parties received about Tuesday's hearing.

"We'll have some more hearings," Sen. Balderson said. "We want to give everyone adequate time. We'd like to have at least something by the first of December that we can vote on."

Several amendments have been drafted behind the scenes, although it's unclear if and when they'll be introduced for consideration. Sponsor Sen. Bill Seitz said he is unsure whether he will introduce any of his prepared amendments next week.

"I think there are a couple things we could tweak along the way, but, yes, I do feel good about it," Sen. Balderson said of the status of the bill. "And I know one amendment might be the mercantile opt out. It's in there right now (to start) in 2019, but 2017 was talked about last week in committee."

Outlining his concerns with the bill, Mr. Weston urged the committee to: preclude utilities from charging consumers for shared savings that are not a direct result of utility programs or that are unrelated to electricity sales; add language to protect consumers from bearing any cost associated with the mercantile opt-out program, and; prohibit consideration of renewables and energy efficiency in cases other than those intended for implementing the energy standards.

Responding to a question from Sen. Seitz, Mr. Weston floated the idea of a 3% cost cap for consumers. He also argued for requiring utilities to use competitive bidding when retaining providers or vendors when implementing their energy efficiency programs.

He further advised against any attempts to add language permitting electricity rate hikes if a utility's financial integrity is at risk.

"If such a change in the law is to be considered by the legislature, it should be done in a standalone bill with a full public hearing process and not rushed in this limited post-election session," Mr. Weston said.

Brakey Energy President Matt Brakey was the only proponent to testify during this week's hearing. He said the company fully supports the mercantile customer opt-out and would even urge the provision to be enacted sooner.

The bill as written would expand opt-out eligibility to businesses consuming more than 700,000 kilowatt hours per year - a move opponents say is premature considering the existing opt-out doesn't begin until 2017. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 17, 2016)

Even if the opt-out timeline isn't advanced, Mr. Brakey said, lawmakers should act fast in reaching a resolution before the ongoing freeze on energy standards expires at year's end.

"Because of the cycle time of the electric distribution utilities, delaying commonsense reforms will require the utilities to launch another expensive, multi-year installment toward compliance that will be passed onto Ohio's residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional customers," he said. "This is an outcome Ohioans cannot afford."

Environmental Law and Policy Center Senior Attorney Rob Kelter said the group opposes the bill's removal of compliance mechanisms for the first three years.

Opponents argue such language waters down the state's approach to renewables while proponents say it buys the state more time pending the legal resolution of the Clean Power Plan.

"The utilities recover both their costs and lost revenues related to energy efficiency so they are held harmless. On top of that they share the savings they generate for customers through shared savings mechanisms that all the utilities have achieved," Mr. Kelter said. "Some utilities have earned bonuses as high as \$20 million per year from running the programs. Making the standards voluntary sends the wrong signal regarding the importance of the standards and the need to meet the targets."

Mr. Kelter said the group also opposes both the lowering of the energy efficiency benchmark to 17% and the potential expansion of the mercantile opt-out program.

"Somehow, listening to the testimony and comments from proponents, one would think

Ohio is about to become California," Mr. Kelter said. "We are only looking for a very reasonable and doable level of efficiency and renewables that will benefit all Ohioans through both cleaner air and lower bills."

Alan Rosenfield submitted written opponent testimony on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Ohio, saying that the bill "continues bad policy by refusing to require a reasonable percentage of energy come from renewable sources."

"We reject the idea that SB320 lifts the two-year freeze imposed on renewable energy requirements," he wrote. "We urge that the current language of O.R.C. 4928-64 be retained and oppose any changes in that section that are included in SB320."

Senate Panel Takes Up Ignition Interlock Device Measure

First-time OVI offenders could have the opportunity to be granted unlimited driving privileges, with a catch, under a House bill reviewed in the Senate Tuesday.

The legislation (HB 388) sponsored by Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) would allow first-time offenders to petition the court for unlimited driving privileges with an Ignition Interlock Device during the offender's driver's license suspension.

"Our current laws contain an ineffective system of limited driving privileges. The offender first has a period of 15 days where he or she cannot drive at all. Then he or she can obtain limited driving privileges from the judge and may be granted access to any occupational, educational, vocational, or medical destinations as well as commercial licensing exams and court mandated appearances during certain times of the day," he told members of the Senate Insurance Committee Tuesday.

"Second-time offenders are required to use a certified Ignition Interlock Device (IID) if restricted driving has been permitted. Second time offenders are also required to employ yellow license plates on their vehicles. The second offense provisions all too often give rise to plea bargains to reduce the overall punishment."

The legislation, dubbed "Annie's Law," also lengthens the first-time minimum suspension from six months to 12 months. However, that suspension can be cut in half if a court grants a request to use an IID.

In addition, the measure would also require a first-time offender to obtain a restricted license indicating the use of an IID is required.

"It is important to note that this language is permissive: the offender is not required to request the use of the device, nor is the judge required to allow the use of the device. The IID petition can only be granted at the time of conviction, not at the time of the arraignment. There is no change to current law for the time from arrest to conviction," Rep. Scherer said.

Yet another provision of the bill would extend the look-back period for OVI offenses from six to 10 years.

Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo) questioned the rationale behind that provision.

Rep. Scherer said it was requested by municipal court judges who believe the six-year window is not long enough.

In researching the legislation, Rep. Scherer told the panel that he voluntarily installed an IID in his own vehicle and sought to allay some of the misconceptions about the device, including the belief that an impaired driver could have a child blow into it to allow a vehicle to be started.

"It's not that simple to use," he said. "It does require a velocity of air going through the device, and a sustained velocity."

Chairman Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) asked if the devices require a driver to do anything while operating a vehicle.

Rep. Scherer said that some do require a "rolling retest," which he was initially opposed to until he learned that 28 states with similar laws also mandate continued testing after the initial one to allow the vehicle to start.

"It is not a significant burden," he said. "You can always pull over to the side of the road to do it. I found that once I got used to it, I didn't need to pull over to do it."

The bill is named after Annie Rooney, who was killed by a drunken driver in 2013.

"The woman who hit Annie that fateful day had at least three misdemeanor charges of operating a vehicle while impaired filed against her. Since her death, Annie's family has worked with Mothers Against Drunk Driving and others in their cause to reduce the number of casualties to this horrible tragedy that occurs far too often," Rep. Scherer said.

The bill has been in the works for three years and currently has no known opposition, Rep. Scherer told the panel.

The measure cleared the House in an 84-5 vote in May. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 18, 2016)

Proponents Urge Senate Support For Ohio EPA Updates

More than a dozen proponents testified or submitted written testimony to the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee Tuesday on the governor's second OEPA-themed mid-biennium review bill.

During the bill's (SB 333) second hearing before the committee, lawmakers asked no questions as witnesses touted what they perceive as the bill's merits.

By and large, the group said the bill would install much-needed oversight over construction and demolition debris processing plants, refocus the mission of the Lake Erie Commission, and permit the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's director to waive, transfer or revoke a 401 water quality certification. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 18, 2016)

Ohio Environmental Council Deputy Director Jack Shaner thanked the OEPA for participating in stakeholder meetings to gather feedback, saying the group is "confident that constructive compromise amendments will emerge."

That's because the group, which supports the bill, still has two areas of concern, Mr. Shaner said.

One provision worth revisiting, he said, is language that makes substantive changes to the makeup, authority and duties of the Lake Erie Commission. The bill's intent is to refocus the commission on helping the state meet its obligations under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

"It remains unclear how and to what extent the commission will 'ensure the...implementation of federal, state and local policies, programs and issues,'" Mr. Shaner said, recommending instead the language be changed so the commission can ensure coordination of "the funding, implementation, and monitoring" of those areas.

The group also requested a change in language enabling the OEPA director to grant 401 waivers, which proponents say will speed up projects already approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

OEC argues the waiver should be considered a final appealable order and should not be issued within 90 days of the agency's receipt of a complete application to allow actual agency review. Further, the group said the director should be required to include written justification for granting the waiver.

Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Executive Director Diane Bickett testified the bill would address "serious problems" stemming from unregulated C&DD processing facilities in the county. She said such sites accumulate waste, becoming eyesores and ultimately shifting the burden of cleanup onto taxpayers.

"Most of the debris being accepted at this and other sham recycling facilities is debris resulting from the demolition of vacant homes," she said. "Demolition contractors cut costs by taking the debris to these sham recycling sites because they undercut the disposal fees that legitimate recyclers and landfills must charge in order to operate properly."

Ohio Environmental Health Association President Chad Brown said the group has spent a decade trying to address issues within the C&DD industry, but has made little progress without legislative action.

"There have been cases in all regions of the state where materials have been stockpiled without being processed properly, which has resulted in public nuisance situations," Mr. Brown said. "SB333 aims to address these nuisance conditions and provide the proper authority to OEPA and local health departments to address these issues."

Other witnesses praised different facets of the bill. Ohio Chamber of Commerce Director of Energy and Environmental Policy Zachary Frymier said the bill would improve business efficiency and surface water quality by strengthening the Certified Water Quality Professional Program.

Agreeing the bill would allow the state to address "bad actors" in the C&DD industry, he also praised the 401 waiver provision.

Ohio Rural Water Association Executive Director Kevin Strang singled out the bill's requirement that private water systems maintain an asset management plan. He said his association regularly assists systems with few resources that have overlooked or delayed maintenance and inventory planning.

"We have most recently provided extensive services to the villages of Botkins in Shelby County, Gratis in Preble County, and Spring Valley in Green County," he said. "In these three systems alone we project potential long term savings in excess of \$500,000 by reducing the need for premature repairs and replacement of system equipment."

Others testifying in support of the measure included Geoff Guss of Coschoton's McWane Ductile, professional engineer Alan Olsen, Great Lakes RCAP Director Debbie Martin, Hecla Water Association Inc. General Manager Tony Howard, and Materials Management Advisory Council Chairman Michael Dineen.

Submitting written proponent testimony were Port of Cleveland Vice President of External Affairs Jade Davis, Cuyahoga County Health Commissioner Terry Allan, Aqua Ohio Inc. and Aqua Ohio Wastewater Inc. President Ed Kolodziej, CSX Resident Vice President Rusty Orben, and a pair of Ohio residents.

Committee Chair Raises Concerns About Insurance Bill

The leader of a Senate committee on Tuesday questioned the efficacy of a measure designed to prevent certain uninsured drivers from collecting non-compensatory damages as a result of a traffic accident.

Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark), chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee, said a recent study found that the measure (HB 279) would decrease the rate of uninsured drivers on Ohio's roadways by just 1.6%.

"Candidly, 1.6% is probably certainly inside the margin of error," he said.

Sponsoring Rep. Michael Henne (R-Clayton) said the legislation is about fairness. He likened the circumstances it addresses to a group that buys lottery tickets and hits a jackpot, then someone who did not contribute to the purchase asking for a share of the winnings.

"If everybody participates then we are protecting everybody," he said.

Sen. Hottinger also raised concerns about a letter from the Ohio Judicial Conference sent to Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton), a co-sponsor of the bill, that suggested the measure could violate both the Equal Protection and Due Process clauses of the Ohio Constitution.

But Rep. Henne said just one state's high court found a similar measure to be unconstitutional.

Under the bill, those who have a previous conviction of driving without insurance in the past seven years would be barred from seeking non-compensatory damages in the event of a traffic accident.

"They can still collect damages for their damaged property, medical bills, and loss of wages," Rep. Henne said.

Uninsured motorists would still be able to sue for non-economic damages in what Rep. Henne described as egregious situations, including crashes involving a four- or six-point offense, texting while driving and wrongful death. Drivers under the age of 18 will also be exempted from the law.

An estimated 15% of Ohio drivers are uninsured, above the national average of 13%, according to Rep. Henne.

The number of crashes involving uninsured drivers increased from 50,151 in 2011 to 95,000 in 2015, he said.

"Drivers who repeatedly choose not to participate in a system that is designed to protect all drivers, by failing to purchase the required minimum limits of liability protection, will no longer receive the full benefits of this system," he said. "If they are injured by another driver, HB279 affords the uninsured driver more than the amount of protection they offer their victims."

Sen. Hottinger was not alone in questioning the measure. Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo) said she supports the goal behind the bill, but does not believe it will accomplish "a great deal."

"I would like to see a bill where we come forth with some method by which we use some other stick," she said.

Adding that there are many Ohioans who cannot afford liability insurance and lack access to public transportation, the Democrat said, "We need something else. We need to look at the possibility that there may be extenuating circumstances."

Rep. Henne replied by saying that if someone does not have the financial means to obtain liability insurance, they don't have the financial means to drive a vehicle.

"Should we allow people to run through red lights if they are late for work?" he asked.

The legislation passed the House in May on a largely party-line vote of 62-35, with Reps. Jonathan Dever (R-Cincinnati) and Louis Terhar (R-Cincinnati) voting with the Democrats on opposition. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 25, 2016)

Medical Board Closes Investigation Into Dayton Abortion Clinic

Anti-abortion groups on Tuesday called for further government action against a Dayton-area clinic following the State Medical Board of Ohio's closure of a case involving the facility.

Ohio Right to Life and Dayton Right to Life urged the board to either disclose the investigative record or reopen the probe into Women's Med Center in Kettering regarding a June incident in which a patient received an abortion despite being unable to consent due to a drug overdose.

Dayton Right to Life filed complaints with the board earlier this year after an incident report from the Ohio Department of Health. The patient had taken a number of drugs the day of the scheduled abortion and was unable to walk on her own or keep her eyes open, according to the report. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 4, 2016)

Paul Coudron, executive director of Dayton Right to Life, said he received a notice from the Medical Board that the cases against the doctors at the facility had been closed with no action taken.

"The women of Dayton deserve to know why no action, not even a reprimand, has been taken by this institution," he said at a Columbus news conference.

Mr. Coudron and Devin Scribner, executive director of Ohio Right to Life, said they want the board either to release the record of their investigation or to reopen the case.

"Today we're here to call for action from the State Medical Board," Mr. Scribner said. "Case closed is not good enough for us."

Katherine Franklin, spokeswoman for Ohio Right to Life, said the issue is one of informed consent and should be of concern for Ohioans regardless of their attitudes toward abortion.

"This is much more a question of ethics in medicine more than it is politics," she said. "Pro-choice and pro-life advocates should be demanding action on this case, because it gets to the heart of a woman's right to say no and control her own bodily autonomy."

Michael Gonidakis, the president of Ohio Right to Life, serves as president of the State Medical Board but said he would recuse himself in the case. The investigation was closed by board staff and never required a hearing before the board.

Tessie Pollock, a spokeswoman for the board, said the details of complaints and investigations are confidential.

"When we receive complaints about informed consent, we investigate fully, as we do with all complaints against licensees," she said in an email. "Informed consent is an essential part of a physician's standard of care; failure to obtain informed consent is a failure to meet the minimal standard of care required of Ohio licensed physicians."

Investigative staff at the board have access to medical records, interviews with providers, patients, complainants and experts, and can subpoena documents, she said.

Kellie Copeland, executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio, said the case has been reviewed and closed.

"When this case opened, the Ohio Department of Health investigated and asked the provider to rewrite their policy, which they did," she said in a statement. "Both the health department and the State Medical Board have looked into this case, and neither have decided additional action is necessary. Case closed."

"Women in Ohio need access to safe and legal abortion care from providers like Women's Med Center," she added. "They don't need political interference from Ohio Right to Life."

Buckeye Institute Touts Charity Care; OSMA Launches Opioid Campaign; Innovation Ohio Eyes Food Insecurity

The state could encourage more affordable health care by incentivizing doctors to perform charity care, according to a policy brief by the Buckeye Institute.

Bureaucratic hurdles in Medicaid create a situation in which doctors often refuse new patients, and limitations on voluntary charity care would help doctors and nurses reach more people, wrote Greg Lawson, Statehouse liaison for the Buckeye Institute.

The policy brief encouraged lawmakers to allow health care professionals to receive continuing education credits in exchange for providing charity care to underserved Ohioans. Other states, such as Florida, allow medical professionals to earn credit for up to a certain number of hours or a certain percentage of credit per renewal period. Bills have been introduced (HB 488 and SB 292) to deal with these issues.

"Healthcare providers must maintain a requisite number of CE credits to practice in Ohio, and allowing some of those credits to be earned through charity care will increase the supply of quality treatment available to the poor," Mr. Lawson wrote.

Other possible changes that would improve access to charity care include broadening immunity provisions that protect charity care providers from malpractice lawsuits, the brief said, and relaxing regulatory requirements on licensed nurses. A bill (HB 216) to increase the autonomy of advanced practice registered nurses has cleared the House and is currently before a Senate committee.

"These are examples of the kind of reforms that could be pursued as policymakers devise ways to extend access to more affordable healthcare to our neediest patients and communities," Mr. Lawson wrote.

OSMA Opioid Campaign: The Ohio State Medical Association has launched a campaign aimed at fighting the problem of misuse and abuse of opioid painkillers.

The campaign, called BeSmart, includes posters and prescription pads for doctors and prescribers to use that raise awareness of information about the potentially addictive and dangerous drugs.

The materials include links and numbers for drug-related resources and advice for people who are prescribed opioids, people who are prescribed non-opioid treatments, and for talking to children about drug abuse.

Food Insecurity Report: An investment of \$16 million in the Ohio State Extension nutrition education programs could lift 24,000 Ohioans out of food insecurity, according to a report from the Innovation Ohio Education Fund.

The report looked at a number of potential policy solutions for dealing with the state's high rate of food insecurity, including improving the nutrition education programs, expanding the number of counties with SNAP eligibility waivers, reforming the state earned income tax credit and investing in job creation programs.

It found the education funding to be highly effective, while grading it a medium for efficiency and political feasibility.

"Based on the above analysis, I recommend that the state of Ohio expand its nutrition education program and expand the number of counties with SNAP eligibility waivers," author Rob Moore wrote. "ETC reforms and job programs, while potentially valuable for other reasons, are unlikely to significantly decrease food insecurity in the state without large, expensive investments."

"A state-funded SNAP-Ed program funded at \$16 million (a modest 0.6% increase in higher education spending for Ohio and one tenth the size of an EITC expansion) would lead to a projected reduction in food insecurity that would lift 24,000 Ohioans out of food insecurity," he added.

Farmers Union Prices Thanksgiving Dinner; AG Warns On Holiday Shopping Scams; DSW Sales Up

Farmers will see less than 20% of consumer dollars spent on popular holiday menu items this year, according to an annual report.

The Thanksgiving edition of the National Farmers Union Farmer's Share publication found that farmers receive 19.4 cents of every food dollar spent on 15 common holiday foods. Most of the cost of traditional fare comes from marketing, processing, wholesaling, distribution and retailing.

Throughout the year, research has found farmers take in a little more than 17 cents for every food dollar consumers spend, NFU said.

"It's important to understand the difference between the price consumers pay for food at the grocery store or restaurant and the commodity prices farmers are paid for their products, NFU President Roger Johnson said in a statement.

"Just recently, food costs started to drop, but farm and ranch families have been plagued by low commodity prices for nearly three years," he said. "Comparatively, the costs associated with the rest of the supply chain have a more pronounced effect on consumers' food prices."

Turkey growers receive about 89 cents per pound retailing at \$1.59, while wheat farmers averaged four cents on a dozen dinner rolls that retail for \$3.29 and dairy producers received \$1.44 for the average \$4.49 gallon of fat free milk, the report shows.

Holiday Shopping: The Better Business Bureau and Attorney General Mike DeWine are working to inform consumers about how to keep themselves and their wallets safe as the holiday shopping season officially kicks off this week.

The AG's office released a list of tips for the estimated 137.4 million shoppers expected to take to stores over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

It includes recommendations to make plans before getting to stores, diligently reading fine print in ads and on "free" offers, and monitor bank accounts for any fraudulent charges.

"We encourage consumers to take some simple steps to protect themselves," Attorney General DeWine said. "Whether they're shopping online or in stores, we encourage people to take their time, understand the details, and ask for help if they need it. Awareness can go a long way in preventing problems."

BBB, meanwhile, has launched a new #AdTruth campaign to highlight common schemes companies use to lure in business and inform shoppers about how to truly find the best deals.

As more purchasing moves to the internet, BBB is also providing information about how to determine if a website or advertising emails are credible.

DSW: Third-quarter sales increased 4.7% to \$697 million compared to the same period last year, when sales decreased 2%, the company reported.

The Columbus-based footwear and accessories retailer also reported net income of \$39 million, or \$0.47 per diluted share. The total includes pre-tax charges from the acquisition of Ebuys, which is another footwear retailer.

"This quarter reflects the first step in our return to year-over-year earnings growth," CEO Roger Rawlins said "After four consecutive declines, we reported a 16% increase in Adjusted Earnings Per Share this quarter."

"Tighter inventory management drove improvements in gross margin which, combined with effective expense management, resulted in an increase in net income," he continued. "We've reduced clearance markdowns and we are positioned to generate more profitable sales in the holiday season."

Governor's Appointment

Northeast Ohio Medical University Board of Trustees: E. Douglas Beach of Northfield (Summit Co.) for a term beginning Nov. 22 and ending Sept. 21, 2024.

Attorney General's Opinion

No. 2016-037. Requested by Athens County Prosecuting Attorney Keller J. Blackburn.
SYLLABUS:

1. A secret service officer appointed pursuant to R.C. 309.07 may serve as a member of a board of township trustees, provided that in his capacity as a township trustee he refrains from participating in any discussions, deliberations, negotiations, or votes under R.C. 309.09(B) to retain legal counsel other than the prosecuting attorney to advise or represent the township, and in his capacity as a secret service officer he shall not be permitted or required to conduct any criminal investigatory activities or functions in connection with criminal charges that may be brought by the prosecuting attorney or other prosecuting authority against officers or employees of the township.

2. A legal secretary appointed pursuant to R.C. 309.06 may serve as a member of a board of township trustees, provided that in her capacity as a township trustee she refrains from participating in any discussions, deliberations, negotiations, or votes under R.C. 309.09(B) to retain legal counsel other than the prosecuting attorney to advise or represent the township.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, November 29

Power Siting Board, Rm. 11B, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 30

Aerospace & Aviation Technology Committee, Rm. 122, Statehouse, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Monday, November 28

Auditor of State Dave Yost media availability on open enrollment, Auditor of State Ceremonial Office, Statehouse, Columbus, 2 p.m.

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley,
Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, November 23

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

No agency meetings scheduled.

Event Planner

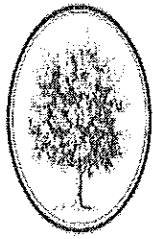
No events scheduled.

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Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 11:15 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: What the heck is #GivingTuesday? And what is that pound sign thing anyway?



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

And why is every charity I've ever heard of emailing asking for money today when I'm still savoring leftover turkey sandwiches along with that sweetest Ohio State double overtime victory?

At The Buckeye Institute, we are here to answer questions, educate, and inspire...

Back in 2012, some entrepreneurial folks at the 92nd Street Y, a community and cultural center in New York, realized that shopping events such as Black Friday and Cyber Monday were heavily focused on the materialism fueling the less desirable parts of our culture that were becoming obsessed with taking "selfies" and less concerned with helping others.

The idea was that kicking off this festive holiday season of giving with a single and branded day entitled "Giving Tuesday" following the shopping rush would awaken our better angels amidst the hubbub of the end of the year.

By the way, for those of you (like me) who don't regularly use social media, the pound sign is known as a hashtag. Hashtags are a good way to organize pithy topics into categories. However, I like to occasionally drop them into ordinary conversations as well. So the other day when my significant other was not stepping up to finish the necessary chores

to get ready for Thanksgiving company, I simply said, "I relish when the house is totally clean and full of music and crackling firewood
HASHTAG please get to work helping get these things done my love."

The good news is that we have become a more generous society. Did I mention that giving generously also feels really good?

A few years ago, a NY Times op-ed (I know, I know, that's not the most reliable source of news these days.... but the author had a fair point about why giving is actually the nicest thing we can do for ourselves) cited research that found that when study participants were told to think about giving money to charity, the parts of the brain associated with eating warm apple pie and having sex were engaged. Whoa, dang, what?! So I guess you could say financially sacrificing for a worthwhile cause is both delicious and exciting.

Who doesn't want to get those nice endorphins going?

Also, major studies have proven that givers are happier in their lives than non-givers.

The happiness difference between givers and non-givers is not due to differences in personal characteristics, income or religion. Imagine two people who are identical in terms of income, faith, age, education, politics, gender, and family circumstances, but one is a donor and volunteers regularly and the other doesn't. The giver will be, on average, 11 percentage points more likely to say he or she is fulfilled.

Where can you sign up for these intangible benefits?

I am so glad you asked.

As luck would have it, The Buckeye Institute is a lean mean public policy operation that spends its resources wisely and effectively to advance the cause of freedom and prosperity in the states.

And we simply (and literally) would not exist without your partnership.

We are a public charity that has to raise funds every day to continue fighting the good fight. We are participating in #GivingTuesday to bring awareness of our work and the necessity for donations to advance our cause.

As you may know, The Buckeye Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit, and tax-exempt organization, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, we rely on the generous financial contributions of those who share our commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and limited government. The Buckeye Institute does not seek or accept government funding. In fact, we try to get the government out of charities, out of our lives, families, and businesses. You did build those--and did so pretty well it turns out. #KindlyKeepYourBigGovernmentOutOfMyWayThankYou

Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law, and means more to us than warm apple pie or sex any time of year. Well, on second thought, that might be hyperbole. We really love pie too. Please consider sending a gift today or at least before the end of the year, not least of which so that over time your giving blesses you with happiness.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are humbled and grateful to have earned your trust and will work day in and day out to keep it.

Donate Now

###

Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution—a think tank—whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.

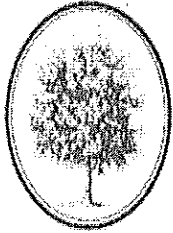
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Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2016 2:51 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: The Buckeye Institute fought hard for your property rights today at the Statehouse



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Daniel Dew, Criminal Justice Fellow
(614) 224-4422 or Daniel@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 2016

Reforming Asset Forfeiture and Defending Property Rights

COLUMBUS, OHIO--On Wednesday, The Buckeye Institute's President and CEO, Robert Alt testified before the Ohio Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee on Amended House Bill 347, which would substantially reform Ohio's civil asset forfeiture laws. Read his full testimony [here](#).

A broad range of organizations, along with an overwhelming majority of Ohioans, have continually expressed support for the proposed reforms.

In addition to Alt's testimony, The Buckeye Institute's Daniel Dew co-authored an op-ed in the Cincinnati Enquirer today, stating that the bill would curb an ongoing assault on private property.

The Columbus Dispatch cited Buckeye's testimony and reported that this bill is poised to pass next week, despite continued opposition from law enforcement and prosecutors.

Alt explained in his testimony that these reforms would be a significant step in defending the property rights of Ohio's citizens, since they return asset forfeiture to its original purpose without "impeding law enforcement's ability to prevent crime, pursue criminals, and secure convictions."

Suggestions were made during the hearings to align Ohio to misguided and non-indexed for inflation federal standards. Buckeye's President and CEO Robert Alt has a simple message in response: "We do things better in Ohio. We don't need to look to Washington for guidance. We can create better and fairer solutions right here in Columbus and, in doing so, set the standard for the entire nation on an issue that needs to be fixed. We can protect private property rights for our citizens, and still ensure that crime doesn't pay."

###

BACKGROUND: Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution--a think tank--whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.

The Buckeye Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit, and tax-exempt organization, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, it relies on support from individuals, corporations, and foundations that share a commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and limited government. The Buckeye Institute does not seek or accept government funding.

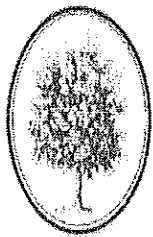
The Buckeye Institute, 88 E. Broad Street, Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2016 1:21 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Is it possible to get tired of winning (policy victories)?



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

A prominent presidential candidate you may recognize (we're opinionated on policy around here, but are not partisan, darling) recently raised the entirely valid question about whether you could have too much winning. Nope. Not at The Buckeye Institute at least. We are on a roll winning. And we love it, we can't get enough winning, and we are just warming up preparing for even more wins next year...

If you want to hear some musical inspiration on this count, DJ Khaled's All I Do Is Win anthem has the upbeat and catchy refrain that applies to our policy efforts lately.

The Buckeye Institute racked up not just one, but four policy wins in the past 24 hours!

- We finally secured property rights against government seizure for non-criminals through the legislative passage of civil asset forfeiture reform in Ohio. Woo hoo!
- An idea we had to more rigorously review tax "expenditures" (ahem, some very smart people do call them as they are commonly known--loopholes) and reform the Ohio tax code passed the legislature. Woo hoo squared!
- We won the right for medical providers (doctors, etc.) to earn a portion of their continuing education credits through providing

charity care (donating their time and expertise) to under-served and low-income patients. Woo hoo cubed!

- We changed the process for reviewing occupational licensing boards to make sure that they are ensuring public safety and not just protecting their crony interests. We also won the automatic sunseting (eliminating by a certain date) of unnecessary licensing boards. We even defined what the least restrictive forms of regulation are, helped to rank them from least to most, and made it the policy of Ohio to try to do the LEAST restrictive forms of regulation while still ensuring public safety. Woo hoo to the fourth power!

As we said, these four tremendous policy wins passed the Ohio House and Senate in the past 24 hours (all we did was win, win, win!), but each is still subject to Governor's Kasich signature.... Let's hope that our Governor does the right thing and signs all four of these consequential policies into law in the next ten days so that Ohioans have more freedom, stronger property rights, more opportunity to succeed, more ability to serve the people who need it most, and more transparency in our tax code. Everyone wins then.

For all of you who support our work and stand with us through thick and thin, these wins are your wins. You did these! You made it possible for us to research, testify, educate, and persuade. You won these enormous policy victories that make Ohio better. Take a bow and proudly sing out loud "All I do is win, win, win!"

Go ahead, I'll wait. You can't do it without dancing a little bit, can you?

Send us a video of yourself singing that refrain through social media while you're at it. If it's good enough, we'll email it out to everyone if these policies are signed into law.

With The Buckeye Institute as your experienced, credible, and innovative policy partner, you will never get sick of winning! THAT I can tell you. Buh-lieve me folks. We will keep winning all year long.

For those of you looking for more detailed information about these wins, we will send thorough commentary and background as they are signed into law (again, assuming Governor Kasich does the right thing), including the specific research, policy work, and testimony we provided

to make them happen. Don't worry. You wonky policy paper lovers out there will have your fill of our work to review. We will also mention the specific legislators who advanced these ideas and will thank them accordingly and profusely for doing a wonderful job winning for Ohio. We're looking at you, Representatives and Senators on the side of good policy wins. We know who you are. And, of course, your Buckeye Institute has policy briefs upon testimony upon research papers for you to enjoy and to help you avoid any of your less than favorite in-laws over Christmas break--just hand them a copy of our longest policy papers and ask them to read silently to themselves near a crackling fire instead of talking to you.

In the meantime, have a terrific weekend celebrating our beloved Buckeyes getting into the national college football playoff and these important policy wins for O-H-I-O! Cheers.

#

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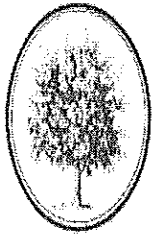
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2016 7:41 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Reminder: Seminar with Daniel Dew today at noon



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Friends,

If your lunch hour has opened up, please join us today at noon for a seminar with Buckeye's Criminal Justice Fellow, Daniel Dew. Again, it's free of charge. Just bring your own lunch and show up on time!

As announced previously, Dew will give a talk on criminal justice reform efforts in the state of Ohio.

When: Buckeye's lunchtime seminars begin promptly at noon and end by 1:30 at the latest (and often earlier)

Where: The Buckeye Institute's conference room on the 11th floor of the Key Bank building located on the corner of East Broad Street and 3rd at 88 East Broad Street, directly across from Statehouse

Hope to see you there!

###

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educational institution—a think tank—whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.

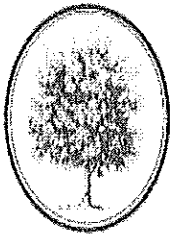
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2016 11:11 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: The Buckeye Institute fights back against costly RPS Standards



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Greg Lawson, Senior Policy Analyst
(614) 224-4422 or Greg@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 15, 2016

The Buckeye Institute Pushes Back Against RPS Standards and Stands Up for Lower Electricity Bills in New Policy Brief

COLUMBUS, OHIO--On Thursday, The Buckeye Institute released a brand new policy brief addressing one of the most important policies the legislature has debated in this "lame duck" session: the renewables portfolio standards (RPS).

As you would guess, these government mandates dictate to your electricity provider how much "renewable" or "green" (think wind and solar) energy sources they must use. They seek to reduce overall energy usage, charge you higher rates, and use the proceeds to subsidize the true cost of those funny-looking spiraled energy efficient light bulbs.

The problem? These RPS mandates--which of course sound nice and eco-friendly to many people--are costly, but provide little (if any) real health or environmental benefits.

You might be willing to pay a little more of your own green toward your electricity bill to support more green energy, and that should be your choice. But forcing everyone to do it regardless of whether they can afford it--even, for example, big manufacturers that employ

thousands of Ohioans and are fighting tooth-and-nail to compete in a tough global market--means that Ohio companies will create fewer jobs and lower income folks will struggle with the increase in their utility bills.

At The Buckeye Institute, we don't believe in killing jobs for regular Ohioans and increasing electricity bills on folks who are barely making it in order to make some people feel better about themselves.

That's why Buckeye applauded legislators' 2014 decision to freeze the mandates for two years and reconsider the policy. A study committee recommended extending the freeze indefinitely. Unfortunately, this recommendation was not followed.

The Buckeye Institute's Policy Brief explains further. The brief is an easier-to-read version of our new more comprehensive white paper that uses hard data and solid economics to demonstrate how exactly RPS policies raise prices. And higher energy prices mean lower job creation. Although our brief shows that eliminating the mandates altogether is the best policy, the legislation awaiting the governor's signature is certainly better than nothing at all. The legislation delays the reinstatement of the RPS mandates and gives utility companies time to transition and find the best ways to comply, keeping costs lower for consumers.

#

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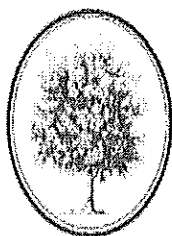
Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute

Sent: Friday, December 16, 2016 1:50 PM

To: Derksen, Nick

Subject: The Buckeye Institute releases Economic Freedom of North America 2016



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Rea Hederman Jr., Executive Vice President
(614) 224-4422 or Rea@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2016

Ohio Scores Poorly on New Economic Freedom Report:

The Buckeye Institute Released Economic Freedom of North America 2016

COLUMBUS, OHIO--On Friday, The Buckeye Institute in partnership with the Canadian Fraser Institute released its latest economic freedom report that ranks every state and province in North America. The report, Economic Freedom of North America 2016, ranks each jurisdiction based on economic freedom (as measured by government spending, taxation, and labor market restrictions) using data from 2014, the most recent year of available data.

According to the new 2016 report, Ohio ranks 38th among the 50 states in economic freedom. Although the state has experienced some improvement--it has moved up two spots from last year, thanks to some positive reforms of tax policy--it is held back by some of the highest government spending in the nation, especially on public employee pensions, workers' compensation, and social programs.

"Ohio's tax reforms over the last year have increased economic freedom in the state. However, Ohio remains well below the national average due to government spending and government subsidies," says Rea S. Hederman Jr., Executive Vice President of The

Buckeye Institute. "The next Ohio budget needs to include provisions that protect prosperity and reduce government."

The Fraser Institute has measured economic freedom in every state and province in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for 12 years now, creating a comprehensive assessment of trends in economic freedom. The Buckeye Institute and its Economic Research Center are co-publishing this prestigious report for the second year in a row, along with offering additional in-depth analysis specifically about Ohio's economy.

The Buckeye Institute's Ohio Economic Freedom Fact Sheet summarizes where Ohio ranks in various economic freedom policies. The state's low overall ranking reinforces the need for substantial economic policy reforms.

The Fraser Institute and The Buckeye Institute are independent think tanks that research and advocate for free market economic policies. The Buckeye Institute's Economic Research Center specializes in data analysis of state-level economic policies.

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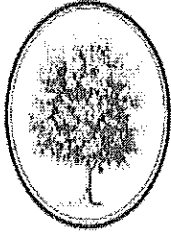
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2016 12:45 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Gov. Kasich's Veto on Energy Reform is Lump of Coal for Ohio Families



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Greg Lawson, Senior Policy Analyst
(614) 224-4422 or Greg@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 27, 2016

Governor Kasich Thwarts Legislature's Commonsense

Reform to Energy Mandates

COLUMBUS, OHIO--On Tuesday, Governor Kasich vetoed a bill that would have implemented extremely modest and positive reforms to state energy mandates for renewable energy and energy efficiency. As The Buckeye Institute's research and reports have shown time and again, these mandates that specify how much of our energy must come from renewable or green sources are costly, harm job creation, and make it difficult on families that are already struggling to pay the bills.

Robert Murray of Murray Energy cited Buckeye's "excellent" testimony to the Energy Mandates Study Committee from July 2015 in his own statement to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on December 8 in making the case against the energy mandates.

In his remarks, Murray included a compelling story from earlier this year, when he was forced to close his oldest mine and lay off hundreds of employees:

"One of these thirty (30) year employees, age 52, that I was forced to lay off, came into my office bawling. I could not get this big, burly, red-faced man out of my office. The renewable energy industries and our Federal leaders have no idea regarding the destruction that they have caused to the families of Ohioans who have only wanted to work in honor and dignity."

Buckeye's latest white paper, which uses a dynamic economic model to analyze precisely how the energy mandates affect the labor market, shows that these mandates Kasich supports actually *reduce* job growth. You can read more about the results in our lighter, more condensed [Policy Brief](#).

And it is not just coal miner jobs that Ohio loses as a result of these mandates, although those are especially important--particularly for the struggling region of Appalachian Ohio that is desperate for jobs. Buckeye's "[Power to the People](#)" report analyzes why it is likely that large manufacturers, which make up almost one-fifth of Ohio's economy and use lots of electricity, are adversely impacted by the mandates and are also likely to reduce hiring.

Finally, Ohio's low-income families are hurt the most by rising utility bills because it leaves them with less disposable income to spend on things like groceries or books for their kids.

Given all of this evidence of the economic harm from energy mandates, it is unfortunate that politics got in the way of the right policy for Ohio.

The story is not over yet, however. The General Assembly could try to override Governor Kasich's veto with a supermajority of votes in both houses in order to make a positive difference for Ohio. While we at Buckeye ultimately want an outright elimination of these burdensome energy mandates that are of dubious environmental value at best, the legislature's modest reform is better than nothing. Perhaps the best Christmas gift of all would be to trade in the lump of coal Kasich's veto of this legislation offered Ohioans and instead have jobs for coal miners as well as cheaper (and locally-produced) energy for Ohio families and businesses.

#

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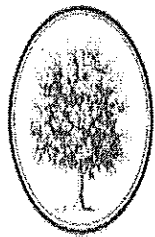
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Saturday, December 31, 2016 8:36 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Between two Fiesta Bowls--Message from Robert Alt



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Dear Friends,

As I prepare to cheer our Buckeyes on to victory tonight, I have been reflecting on the year gone by. It struck me that January 1, 2016, and December 31, 2016, share common Fiesta Bowls featuring our beloved Buckeyes. Didn't we already win this game for 2016? To quote Yogi Berra, "It's déjà vu all over again."

The Buckeye Institute has racked up a significant string of policy victories since 2016's 1st Fiesta Bowl--victories that expand liberty in Ohio and beyond. Here are a few highlights:

- **Occupational Licensing:** Should Ohioans be forced to spend 300 extra hours of training in order to become a salon manager? Of course not. This is just one of the more than 30 counterproductive occupational licensing requirements Buckeye lead the charge in throwing on the ash heap of history. Our research highlighted this problem. Ohio was the only state in the nation with this onerous regulation when the 1st Fiesta Bowl of 2016 happened. It is now gone! Policymakers took note of our work and eliminated the manager's license requirement in 2016, specifically praising Buckeye's research for leading the way to reform.

- **Civil Asset Forfeiture:** Buckeye launched an educational campaign on the need for civil asset forfeiture reform to assure that the government could not continue to seize your property without convicting of you of a crime. This is basic common sense. When this reform passed earlier this month, policymakers once again publicly acknowledged Buckeye's work as instrumental to reforming the policy.
- **Charity Care:** Rather than government mandates, how about making it easier for medical professionals to donate their services to help those in need? Buckeye proposed policy changes that would encourage charity work by medical professionals by giving them continuing education credits for doing so. In a win for all Ohioans, policymakers enacted these reforms earlier this month.

These are just a few highlights of our significant accomplishments since the last Fiesta Bowl, but none of them--not one--would have been possible without you, our dear supporters.

Because of you, The Buckeye Institute had our most successful year in its 27-year history. And we're only just getting started.

2017 year promises to be even better, but we'll need your help once again. Buckeye will continue to lead the way to greater freedom and prosperity in Ohio and all the states through innovation on topics like budget policy, healthcare, energy, and criminal justice issues.

We can't do it without you. We don't solicit or accept government grants or any other taxpayer funding. We believe in the goodness of Americans in supporting our cause. We need your investment to continue doing our vital work, and we have big plans for next year. We can't wait to tell you about them soon.

There is still time left to make a gift to Buckeye in 2016. If you give to Buckeye before the clock strikes midnight, you will get both the satisfaction of knowing that you are making a real difference in helping good public policy win, and you will also enjoy that true inner peace that comes from getting the maximum tax deduction the law allows while this politically-charged IRS wishes you couldn't. (I have a familiar and catchy phrase for Lois Lerner's team who targeted Buckeye to shut us

down or at least shut us up back in 2013: so long, farewell, auf
wiedersehen, goodbye....)

A 2nd Fiesta Bowl victory approximately 12 hours from now will be the icing on the cake of Buckeye's best year yet. Although I can't guarantee the outcome of the game this evening (I'm optimistic, though, that if we throw the ball well that we'll be fine), I can promise you that we will use your donation to fight tirelessly for freedom and prosperity until the *next* Fiesta Bowl and beyond.

Thank you once again for your generous support for The Buckeye Institute. We are humbled, grateful, and inspired. We love this work and love having you partner with us to make it happen.

Happy New Year, and Go Bucks!

Sincerely,



Robert Alt
President & CEO
The Buckeye Institute

Donate Now

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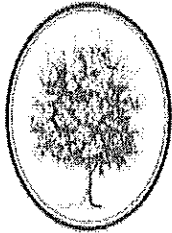
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 7:08 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Kasich signs significant civil asset forfeiture reform into law for Ohio



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Daniel Dew, Criminal Justice Fellow
(614) 224-4422 or Daniel@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 4, 2017

Civil Asset Forfeiture Reforms Become Law in Ohio

We're not saying it makes up for the cringe-worthy Fiesta Bowl loss, but we ARE saying we are thrilled about this New Year's victory for property rights in the Buckeye State!

Earlier today, Ohio Governor John Kasich signed into law sweeping reforms to Ohio's civil asset forfeiture process. This reform is most definitely an idea whose time had come. Civil asset forfeiture laws--believe it or not--had previously allowed the government to take private property without convicting or even *charging* the property owner of a crime. Yes, you read that right.

It was outrageous, and your Buckeye Institute had been leading the charge to get this situation fixed.

A cursory review of the Constitution and your basic sense of justice may tell you that a person ought to need to be convicted of a crime to be punished by the government and have his/her property forfeited. Sadly, that was not the case in Ohio--until now.

This new legislation requires a conviction in most cases before government can take ownership of a person's property--a policy that Buckeye has long championed.

Daniel Dew, Buckeye's Criminal Justice Fellow, said, "The Buckeye Institute applauds Governor Kasich, and heartily congratulates legislators including Rep. Rob McColley, Rep. Tom Brinkman, Senator Kris Jordan, Senator Larry Obhof, Senator Bill Coley, Senator Bill Seitz, and Senator Cecil Thomas who fought for this sorely-needed reform to our previously unacceptable civil asset forfeiture procedures in Ohio."

Representative Rob McColley, the primary sponsor, complimented our work on this issue in saying, "The Buckeye Institute provided tremendous policy expertise to those of us in the legislature fighting to reform civil asset forfeiture and defend the property rights of all Ohioans. Buckeye's good work and leadership on criminal justice reforms more broadly--and on civil asset forfeiture specifically--help to ensure that Ohio is a leader in protecting our citizens."

Our explanatory policy brief on civil asset forfeiture can be found [here](#). Our interested party testimony that was offered in the Senate and House can be found [here](#) and [here](#), respectively. Op-eds published by our policy experts on the issue are available for your review [here](#) and [here](#).

Groups spanning the spectrum philosophically from the left to the right including the Coalition for Public Safety, the ACLU of Ohio, Faith & Freedom Coalition, and U.S. Justice Action Network worked together with us to advance this necessary policy change that benefits all Ohioans. FreedomWorks ran a grassroots campaign as well, for which we are grateful.

If you need help understanding the ins and outs of this issue or, worse, explaining it to your big government friends, [here is an oversimplified yet amusing and informative explanation](#) of civil asset forfeiture. (Fair warning: there is some naughty language, as the video clip is from an HBO television show.)

#

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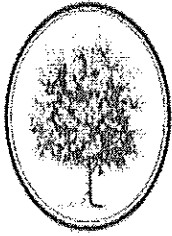
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2017 1:24 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: More Legislation Based on Buckeye Policy Ideas Signed into Law Yesterday



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Greg Lawson, Senior Policy Analyst
(614) 224-4422 or Greg@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 5, 2016

More Legislation Based on Buckeye Policy Ideas

Signed into Law Yesterday

COLUMBUS, OHIO--Late Wednesday afternoon, Governor John Kasich signed legislation to allow medical professionals to receive continuing education credits for donating their time to provide charity medical care for low income and rural Ohioans who otherwise would not have access to quality healthcare services.

This law rewards medical professionals including doctors and nurses who want to help, and does not cost taxpayers *any* additional funding.

There is no sweeter music to our ears at Buckeye than good policy that solves real problems, helps people, and doesn't cost taxpayer money.... To be honest, sometimes we even choke up and get teary thinking about saving taxpayer dollars. We're policy geeks, we really can't help it. It's what we do.

We think about this stuff day and night so you can rest easy knowing that we're looking out for you and coming up with innovative policy ideas that don't involve more government. Yikes... even just saying "more government" out loud gives us the heebie jeebies.

The Buckeye Institute first recommended this policy to legislators back in 2015 when we discussed several different ways to improve access to healthcare in Ohio. Buckeye later commended legislators for proposing our policy, and subsequently reminded them of the benefits of this awesome policy idea we had during lame duck. (If you don't know what lame duck legislative sessions are--you aren't alone--but we gave the history of the lame duck term here hoping to demystify it.)

By making charity care more rewarding for doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals to voluntarily serve low income and underserved patients, the amount of healthcare delivered to those Ohioans will increase at no cost to taxpayers. This is a superior alternative to expanding failed government programs, especially as those very same programs often deliver unacceptable results to those they claim to help.

"Finding ways to increase healthcare services to those most in need is a major challenge that will require many policy changes. Buckeye is on it. Yesterday, Ohio embraced one of these helpful policy changes that we proposed in 2015, which takes a step down the road to improving healthcare for all Ohioans regardless of income or location," said Rea S. Hederman Jr., Executive Vice President of The Buckeye Institute.

The Buckeye Institute is proud to be a national leader on healthcare policy issues, and is grateful for the efforts of both Representative Robert Sprague and Senator Peggy Lehner for taking up this important policy issue--and seeing it through to fruition. A hearty O-H to both of you!

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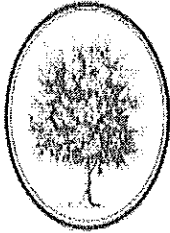
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 1:45 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Have you heard the one about the Buckeye lawyers who fought city hall?*



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Daniel Dew, Criminal Justice Fellow
(614) 224-4422 or Daniel@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 10, 2017

*Don't take city hall literally in this case. Your Buckeye Institute is actually taking on the entire federal government. And, unfortunately, this isn't a punch line to a bad lawyer joke either!

The Buckeye Institute Files Prominent Brief in U.S. Supreme Court to Protect First Amendment Rights--Vows to Fight Attempts to Silence Free Speech at All Costs

COLUMBUS, OHIO--On Tuesday, The Buckeye Institute filed a legal brief with the United States Supreme Court in an all-out legal battle to keep you, our dear friends/investors/supporters, off a government list.

Besides our inherent distaste for government lists on principle, the particular list at issue here violates your First Amendment rights. This list will be used to intimidate you for partnering with Buckeye and other organizations of your choosing.

Here is the backstory: the federal government is going after one of our sister think tanks--Independence Institute in Colorado--and trying to compel it to produce its donor list. Those of you who have been with Buckeye for a while know that our own response to the same

inquiry by IRS agents was a pretty forceful "not one damn name" during our own politically-motivated audit 3 years ago.

We didn't give a single name from our list to the government then, and we aren't about to stand by while the government tries to force our good friends in Colorado doing solid policy work there to give in either.

In fact, The Buckeye Institute joined with State Policy Network to lead the coalition of 24 state-based policy organizations in fighting this unconstitutional effort to erode your ability to speak freely and give in privacy to the causes and organizations you believe in.

The government claims that because an ad by Independence Institute referenced specific candidates within 60 days of the election, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act requires Independence Institute to disclose its entire list of donors to the government.

After all, the government would never misuse or abuse a list of people who donate to a cause with which it disagrees, *right*? Unfortunately, at The Buckeye Institute we know all too well what the government can do with a list (*cough, ahem, Lois Lerner, cough*).

501(c)(3) organizations, like yours truly here, are limited by IRS rules and regulations from advocating for or against political candidates. However, when educating the public on good and bad policy, it is nearly impossible to do so without mentioning the names of those who make the good or bad policies into law.

The ad in question did not advocate for or against any candidates; it just referenced them by name.

Anonymity is a pillar of free speech that your Buckeye Institute will continue to fight for. Without anonymity or privacy, an oppressive majority can intimidate people and organizations into silence--a hallmark of tyranny.

At Buckeye, we will continue to do everything in our power to keep you off of a government list for exercising your God-given and constitutionally recognized right to free

speech. Your support of The Buckeye Institute or any other causes you believe in is your own business, and we will not report your donation to the government. (Remember the media shock at the number of people who voted for Trump? There is a good reason we have secret ballots and don't make it public record whom you supported for president either.)

If you'd like to read our awesome brief in full, be forewarned. While our amazing attorney-in-chief and president Robert Alt swears it is a page-turner, we would strongly advise you to have some coffee first. It was written by some impressive legal minds representing you extraordinarily well at the highest court in the land, and we just want you to have the energy necessary to stick with it to the end. We aren't Alabama around here. We finish strong. Enjoy!

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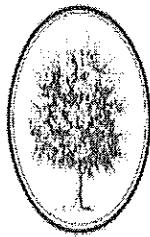
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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 6:34 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Are you in Columbus and open for lunch tomorrow?



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

The Buckeye Institute's President and CEO Robert Alt is moderating a debate for the Columbus Lawyers Chapter of The Federalist Society.

You're all invited! Heck, even your least favorite in-laws and weird neighbors with the mismatched Christmas lights are too. We don't discriminate against anyone who would like to hear a good regulatory debate. Bring any friends, colleagues, or family you would like (after registering them). See details below.

Topic: The FDA now regulates e-cigarettes. Should it? Will regulation improve public health? Will it cost American lives?

Resolved: Keep the FDA Away From My E-Cig

Arguing for the Resolution:

Jonathan H. Adler

Johan Verheij Memorial Professor of Law
Case Western Reserve University School of Law

Arguing Against the Resolution:

Micah Berman

Assistant Professor of Public Health and Law
The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law

Moderating:

Robert Alt
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Buckeye Institute

The cost is \$20 for those who are not current members of the Columbus Lawyers Chapter (\$15 if you already paid Columbus Lawyers Chapter dues for the 2016-2017 program year, and \$5 for students). Lunch is included. R.S.V.P. by January 11 to guarantee your seat, meal, and pre-printed nametag. Call Ben Flowers at (614) 281-3647 or email ColumbusFedSoc@Gmail.com with any questions. To join or renew your dues for the Columbus Lawyers Chapter, please pay the dues through the Eventbrite website or bring a check for an additional \$25 payable to the Federalist Society.

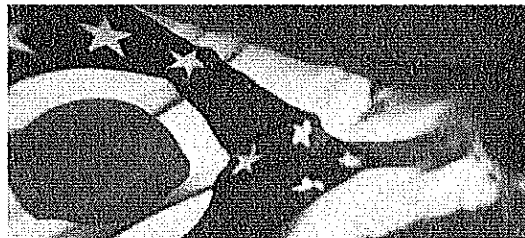
If wonky lawyer debates aren't your thing or you're not in Columbus tomorrow, feel free to forward to anyone who might like to join us.

THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. IT DOES NOT HAVE A POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS AGENDA. IT IS NOT A PART OF THE FEDERALIST SOCIETY.

The event will be held at the following time, date, and location:

Thursday, January 12, 2017 from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM (EST)

The Athletic Club of Columbus
136 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215



[View Map](#)
Share this event:



[Click Here to RSVP](#)

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###

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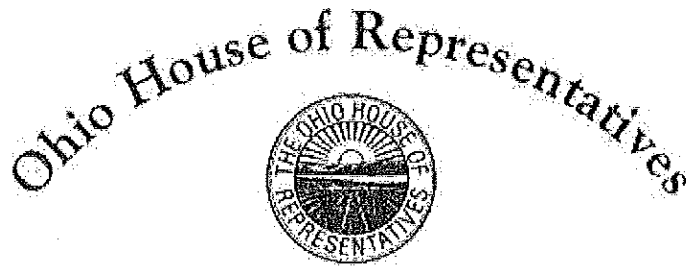
The Buckeye Institute, 88 East Broad Street,
Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

[SafeUnsubscribe™ Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov](#)

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: Hucke, Justin
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 11:12 AM
To: Hucke, Justin
CC: House_All
Subject: Co-sponsor Request: Online Checkbook



To: All House Members
From: Representatives Dever and Greenspan
Date: Friday, January 27, 2017
RE: Co-sponsor Request: Online Checkbook

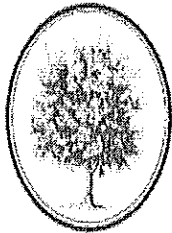
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Throughout the legislative process, this legislation had no opponents and attracted broad bipartisan support from organizations including the Buckeye Institute, Ohio Public Research Interest Group, and the Ohio Newspaper Association.

Using existing authority, in December 2014, Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel unveiled www.ohiocheckbook.com, an easily accessible, searchable database of state expenditures for our taxpayers to hold state government accountable for spending. The new website, arguably the best of its kind in the Nation, reflects the intent of this legislation, but it could readily be taken down by a future treasurer of state. Through this legislation, future treasurers, regardless of political affiliation or commitment to transparency, must maintain this important tool that already is providing more accountable government to our state's residents.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, or if you have any questions or concerns regarding its content, please contact Justin Huckle at 466-8120 or Justin.Huckle@ohiohouse.gov or Bill White at 466-0961 or Bill.White@ohiohouse.gov. **The deadline for co-sponsoring this bill is Friday, February 3rd at 5:00 p.m.**

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 2:56 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Buckeye releases new policy brief on prison reform



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Daniel Dew, Criminal Justice Fellow
(614) 224-4422 or Daniel@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 27, 2017

Reforming Ohio's Prisons and Saving Taxpayer Dollars

COLUMBUS, OHIO--On Friday, The Buckeye Institute released a new policy brief outlining an innovative policy solution to reform Ohio's outdated and overpopulated prison system.

Ohio currently spends \$1.7 billion dollars every year on incarceration, and its prisons are at 134% of their capacity. Unless something is done to reduce this bloated population, the state could end up spending an additional \$1 billion to build an entirely new prison.

Thankfully, as The Buckeye Institute's Daniel Dew explains, Ohio already paved the way to a solution with its reform of the juvenile incarceration system.

"While many policymakers look to Texas and other states to see what they have done to reduce their prison populations, the most successful program to safely reduce incarceration can be found right here in Ohio's juvenile system. By using a market-based approach to encourage local rehabilitation, Ohio's juvenile incarcerated population dropped 74% and Pew estimates that for every dollar Ohio invests in the program it saves \$45."

The Buckeye Institute's policy brief explains these reforms in more detail, and shows how Ohio policymakers could replicate them to solve the ills plaguing its adult prisons.

If implemented, such a system would not only dramatically cut down the prison population, but it would also promote public safety, reduce recidivism, and help combat the drug epidemic--all while saving taxpayers millions, if not billions, of dollars.

#

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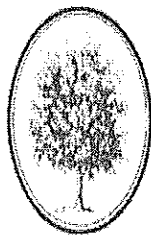
The Buckeye Institute, 88 E. Broad Street, Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 6:30 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Buckeye seminar series for 2017 begins TOMORROW!



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Friends,

You are once again cordially invited to our Buckeye staff lunchtime seminar series for 2017. In case you missed our emails last fall with further details, see the bottom of this message about how these seminars work.

TOMORROW! Tuesday, January 31:

Just in time for Ohio's new biennial budget release, Buckeye's renowned Economist Dr. Orphe Divounguy will give a talk called: "Incentives Matter: An Examination of Tax Policy and the Importance of Incentives." Whether you are an economist or policymaker or are not quite sure you understand economic concepts, Dr. Divounguy is here to help explain why and exactly how the tax code impacts individual and corporate behavior.

Divounguy earned his Ph.D. from England's University of Southampton, and served as a teaching and research fellow and international economic consultant before joining the Buckeye team and our Economic Research Center (ERC) last year.

Tuesday, February 28:

Buckeye's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Rea S. Hederman, Jr. will discuss the future of healthcare in the states in a speech entitled: "What's next for Health Care in the Post-Obama Era?"

Hederman is a national expert on healthcare policy. He also manages Buckeye's staff, operations, research, and policy output, and oversees the Economic Research Center (ERC). Hederman's commentary has been published in The Washington Post, The Washington Times, National Affairs, National Review Online, and FoxNews.com, among others.

When: Buckeye's lunchtime seminars begin promptly at noon and end by 1:30 at the latest (and often earlier).

Where: The Buckeye Institute's conference room on the 11th floor of the Key Bank building located on the corner of East Broad Street and 3rd at 88 East Broad Street in Columbus, directly across from Statehouse/Capitol building. If you need help finding parking downtown, [click here](#).

Background: The Buckeye Institute's policy experts and leadership team regularly share their expert insight and wisdom with Buckeye's staff and interns over lunch. Last fall, we decided to try something experimental.

We began offering our supporters the opportunity to attend these formerly staff-and-interns-only lunchtime seminars. We just asked that you let us know you're coming, bring your own lunch, and show up on time so as not to interrupt the speaker.

The response to this experiment was overwhelmingly positive, and attendance grew each month. We are confident that you'll find these seminars both educational and enjoyable. If for some reason you don't, our 2016 money back guarantee still applies this year: simply file a complaint at www.TakeItOrLeaveIt--It'sFree--Let'sWorkOnOurGratitude.com.

We hope you'll join us tomorrow and at all of our monthly seminars in 2017!

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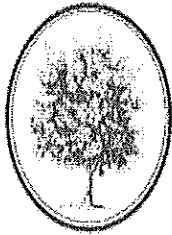
The Buckeye Institute, 88 East Broad Street,
Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 5:21 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Buckeye President Comments on Gorsuch Nomination



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Daniel Dew, Criminal Justice Fellow
(614) 224-4422 or Daniel@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 31, 2017

Commenting on the appointment of Judge Neil Gorsuch to the position of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, The Buckeye Institute's President Robert Alt said the following:

"Judge Neil Gorsuch's approach to the law is, well, judicious. Gorsuch has said that judges ought to declare what the law *is*, not what 'they might wish it to be in light of their own political views.' The commonsense of Gorsuch's judicial philosophy is refreshing in the overly politicized climate of Washington these days."

"Judge Neil Gorsuch is the kind of intellectually serious and exceedingly well-qualified judge everyone on both sides of the aisle should be able to support. He deserves an up or down vote."

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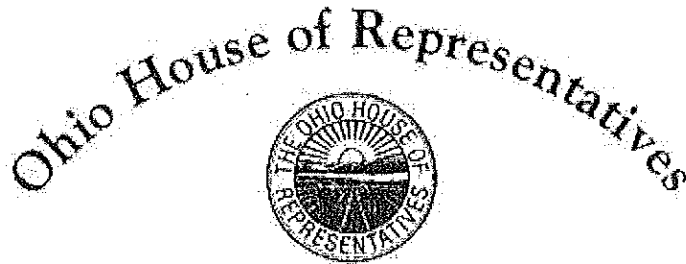
[SafeUnsubscribe™ Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov](#)

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: Hucke, Justin
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Hucke, Justin
CC: White, Bill
Subject: REMINDER: Co-sponsor Request: Online Checkbook

**REMINDER: Deadline to co-sponsor is TOMORROW at
5pm!**



To: All House Members
From: Representatives Dever and Greenspan
Date: Friday, January 27, 2017
RE: Co-sponsor Request: Online Checkbook

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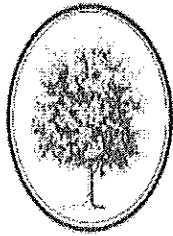
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If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, or if you have any questions or concerns regarding its content, please contact Justin Huckle at 466-8120 or Justin.Huckle@ohiohouse.gov or Bill White at 466-0961 or Bill.White@ohiohouse.gov. The deadline for co-sponsoring this bill is Friday, February 3rd at 5:00 p.m.

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 1:17 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Economic Research Center releases spiffy new reports and model of Wyoming's economy



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Orphe Divounguy, Ph.D., Economist
(614) 224-4422 or Orphe@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 9, 2017

The Buckeye Institute's Economic Research Center Releases New Model of Wyoming's Economy-- Demonstrates Impact of Various Policy Changes

Columbus, OH--On Thursday, The Buckeye Institute's Economic Research Center (ERC) released two timely reports on Wyoming's fiscal and economic problems as demonstrated by a sophisticated new dynamic model it created of Wyoming's economy:

- Review of Wyoming's Fiscal Health
- Fiscal Policy, Theory, and Measurement: The State of Wyoming

These comprehensive economic studies were conducted in partnership with Wyoming Liberty Group in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Economists at The Buckeye Institute's ERC analyzed both the challenges and several potential policy solutions for Wyoming's state budget woes. With its unique custom economic models that employ top-of-the-line dynamic analysis, ERC economists were able to predict how changes in various proposed tax policies will alternately create additional, or threaten existing, jobs in Wyoming.

Wyoming Liberty Group CEO Jonathan Downing said,

"Wyoming Liberty Group is pleased to be able to provide the hard facts, data, economic research, and analysis of various public policy solutions to Wyoming's budget crisis, which have been sorely needed in years past. With this new information and dynamic model in hand, policymakers will have the tools necessary to make fiscally-sound decisions as they address the state's budget issues."

The ERC's model unfortunately reveals that the fiscal problems Wyoming faces may be even worse than anticipated. Excluding transfers from state savings, Wyoming revenue collections have fallen ten percent per person over the last decade in real dollars. The reports praise Wyoming's sensible tax policy that taxes consumption more than personal income or investment. The report's modeled policy scenarios included increases or decreases to the franchise tax, sales tax, severance tax, and an increase in exports. The economists also included a creation of a personal income tax, with the assumption that Wyoming's constitution changed to allow such a tax. The model showed that an effective increase in the sales tax of .5% (through removing exemptions) would result in the loss of nearly 1,000 jobs and a reduction of \$15 million to the state economy over the next two years.

ERC lead economist and report author Dr. Orphe Divounguy stated of the results,

"The Wyoming economy faces tough challenges due to the downturn in the energy market. Wyoming policymakers should consider tax reforms that encourage investment and growth. One of the best pro-growth policies would be the elimination of the franchise tax, which significantly affects investment. One of the worst policies would be the creation of a state income tax. A new income tax would cause even more severe problems for the Wyoming economy and would reduce state GDP and job creation."

###

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The Buckeye Institute, 88 E. Broad Street, Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: Lauren Jones
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 9:55 AM
To: Bob Cupp (cuppb3@wcoil.com); Cupp, Bob; Hildabrand, Dorothy
CC: Derksen, Nick
Subject: FW: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Importance: High

Dear Representative Cupp,

I just got this email and I'm not sure how to respond. I think they are looking for a Committee Member. Is there anyone who would be interested in doing this? Please let me know what you'd like me to do in response.

Thanks,
Lauren

Lauren Monowar-Jones, PhD
Executive Director, Joint Education Oversight Committee
77 S. High Street, Concourse Level
Columbus, OH 43215
(614)466-5983
lauren.jones@jeoc.ohio.gov



From: Nott, Shyla R. [mailto:shyla.nott@wosu.org]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:52 PM
To: Lauren Jones
Cc: Haley Phillippi
Subject: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Hi Lauren,

I'm the producer for *All Sides with Ann Fisher*, the live public affairs talk show on WOSU-NPR in Ohio.

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The show will explore the history of school funding formulas and solutions for fixing public education financing.

We'd like to invite someone from the Joint Education Oversight Committee to join for the first 20 minutes of the program tomorrow, **Tuesday, February 14th from 10-10:20am EASTERN?**

S/he would also be joined by Harold Fleeter, a school-data analyst for the non-profit Ohio Education Policy Institute, and Greg Lawson, a senior policy analyst from The Buckeye Institute.

All Sides with Ann Fisher is a live, public affairs talk show on WOSU public radio with screened listener comments and questions via telephone, email, Facebook and Twitter.

Best,

Shyla Nott
Assistant Producer, *All Sides with Ann Fisher*
WOSU Public Media
2400 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH 43210
[614.688.1750](tel:614.688.1750) | shyla.nott@wosu.org | @WOSUAllSides

WOSU public
media

From: Derksen, Nick
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 10:01 AM
To: Best, Carolyn; Miller, Brad
Subject: Fwd: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14
Attachments: image002.png; image001.png

Nick Derksen

Begin forwarded message:

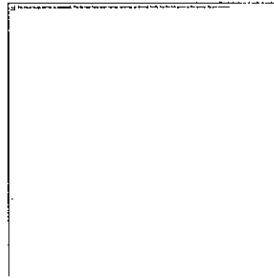
From: Lauren Jones <Lauren.Jones@jeoc.ohio.gov>
Date: February 13, 2017 at 12:54:55 PM EST
To: "Bob Cupp (cuppb3@wcoil.com)" <cuppb3@wcoil.com>, "Cupp, Bob" <Bob.Cupp@ohiohouse.gov>, "Hildabrand, Dorothy" <Dorothy.Hildabrand@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc: "Derksen, Nick" <Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov>
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WOSU Public Media

2400 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH 43210
614.688.1750 | shyla.nott@wosu.org | @WOSUAllSides





REPORT

DOM

From: Best, Carolyn
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 10:04 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
CC: Miller, Brad
Subject: RE: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Thanks Nick. Do you know if Rep. Cupp is interested or were you just making us aware?
Thanks!

From: Derksen, Nick
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 1:01 PM
To: Best, Carolyn <Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov>; Miller, Brad <Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Nick Derksen

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lauren Jones <Lauren.Jones@jeoc.ohio.gov>
Date: February 13, 2017 at 12:54:55 PM EST
To: "Bob Cupp (cuppb3@wcoil.com)" <cuppb3@wcoil.com>, "Cupp, Bob" <Bob.Cupp@ohiohouse.gov>, "Hildabrand, Dorothy" <Dorothy.Hildabrand@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc: "Derksen, Nick" <Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: FW: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

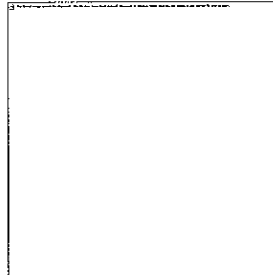
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Thanks,
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Executive Director, Joint Education Oversight Committee

77 S. High Street, Concourse Level
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lauren.jones@jeoc.ohio.gov



From: Nott, Shyla R. [<mailto:shyla.nott@wosu.org>]
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WOSU Public Media

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Columbus, OH 43210

614.688.1750 | shyla.nott@wosu.org | @WOSUAllSides



From: Bob Cupp
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 10:22 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: FW: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Importance: High

Nick,

My thinking would be for Lauren to email members of JEOC and see if anyone wants to volunteer. I cannot do it because I have the cocaine bill in committee to be voted on at that time. Any thoughts?

Bob

From: Lauren.Jones@jeoc.ohio.gov [mailto:Lauren.Jones@jeoc.ohio.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:55 PM
To: Bob Cupp (cuppb3@wcoil.com) <cuppb3@wcoil.com>; Bob.Cupp@ohiohouse.gov; Dorothy.Hildabrand@ohiohouse.gov
Cc: Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov
Subject: FW: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14
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[614.688.1750](tel:614.688.1750) | shyla.nott@wosu.org | @WOSUAllSides



From: Bob Cupp
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 10:32 AM
To: Lauren Jones
CC: Derksen, Nick
Subject: RE: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Lauren,

My recommendation would be first, Sen. Matt Huffman, who has been involved in school funding issues in the past, if he is available; if not, then I would suggest Sen. Lehner who is also knowledgeable about school funding.

Bob

From: Lauren.Jones@jeoc.ohio.gov [mailto:Lauren.Jones@jeoc.ohio.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:55 PM
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To: Lauren Jones
Cc: Haley Phillippi
Subject: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Hi Lauren,

I'm the producer for *All Sides with Ann Fisher*, the live public affairs talk show on WOSU-NPR in Ohio.

We're working on a show about school funding in Ohio following Gov. Kasich's latest and last state budget proposal in which he plans to increase funding by nearly \$200 million over the next two years for K-12 education.

The show will explore the history of school funding formulas and solutions for fixing public education financing.

We'd like to invite someone from the Joint Education Oversight Committee to join for the first 20 minutes of the program tomorrow, **Tuesday, February 14th from 10-10:20am EASTERN?**

S/he would also be joined by Harold Fleeter, a school-data analyst for the non-profit Ohio Education Policy Institute, and Greg Lawson, a senior policy analyst from The Buckeye Institute.

All Sides with Ann Fisher is a live, public affairs talk show on WOSU public radio with screened listener comments and questions via telephone, email, Facebook and Twitter.

Best,

Shyla Nott
Assistant Producer, *All Sides with Ann Fisher*
WOSU Public Media

2400 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH 43210
[614.688.1750](tel:614.688.1750) | shyla.nott@wosu.org | @WOSUAllSides



From: Lauren Jones
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 10:59 AM
To: Bob Cupp
CC: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Re: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Ok. I'm at the state board of education meeting. I will call senator Huffman's office. If I don't get a positive response, I will talk to senator Lehner who is here.

Lauren

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2017, at 1:32 PM, Bob Cupp <cuppb3@wcoil.com> wrote:

Lauren,

My recommendation would be first, Sen. Matt Huffman, who has been involved in school funding issues in the past, if he is available; if not, then I would suggest Sen. Lehner who is also knowledgeable about school funding.

Bob

From: Lauren.Jones@jeoc.ohio.gov [<mailto:Lauren.Jones@jeoc.ohio.gov>]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:55 PM
To: Bob Cupp (cuppb3@wcoil.com) <cuppb3@wcoil.com>;
Bob.Cupp@ohiohouse.gov; Dorothy.Hildabrand@ohiohouse.gov
Cc: Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov
Subject: FW: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU -
Tuesday, Feb. 14
Importance: High

Dear Representative Cupp,

I just got this email and I'm not sure how to respond. I think they are looking for a Committee Member. Is there anyone who would be interested in doing this? Please let me know what you'd like me to do in response.

Thanks,
Lauren

Lauren Monowar-Jones, PhD
Executive Director, Joint Education Oversight Committee

77 S. High Street, Concourse Level
Columbus, OH 43215
(614)466-5983
lauren.jones@jeoc.ohio.gov

<image002.png>

From: Nott, Shyla R. [<mailto:shyla.nott@wosu.org>]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:52 PM
To: Lauren Jones
Cc: Haley Phillippi
Subject: Ohio School Funding Radio Interview All Sides WOSU - Tuesday, Feb. 14

Hi Lauren,

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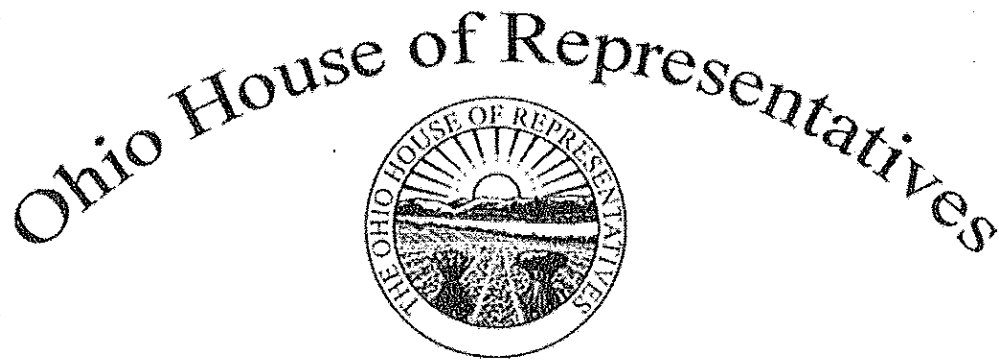
All Sides with Ann Fisher is a live, public affairs talk show on WOSU public radio with screened listener comments and questions via telephone, email, Facebook and Twitter.

Best,

Shyla Nott
Assistant Producer, *All Sides with Ann Fisher*
WOSU Public Media
2400 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH 43210

614.688.1750 | shyla.nott@wosu.org | @WOSUAllSides
<image003.png>

From: Shamblin, James
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 12:02 PM
To: Rep37
CC: Roegner, Kristina
Subject: COMMITTEE NOTICE: The House Committee on Federalism and Interstate Relations



Announcement of Committee Meeting

COMMITTEE: The House Committee on Federalism and Interstate Relations

CHAIR: Kristina D. Roegner

DATE: Tuesday, February 21, 2017

ROOM: Statehouse Room 115

TIME: **4:00 PM**

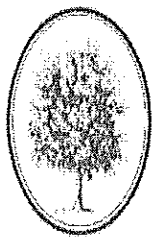
Committee Agenda:

1. Committee and Member Introduction
2. Appointment of Committee Secretary
3. Adoption of Committee Rules
4. Presentation: Introduction and overview of Federalism from Daniel J. Dew of the Buckeye Institute and Peter Shane from The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law.

The Chair respectfully requests that testifying parties submit testimony to her office
24 hours prior to committee.

Testimony can be submitted to: james.shamblin@ohiohouse.gov

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 6:04 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Financial Literacy for Millennials event Thursday, Feb. 23



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Valentine's Day was almost a week ago, and yet The Buckeye Institute is still all about sharing the love.

A fantastic organization that we work with from time to time--America's Future Foundation (commonly known as AFF)--is hosting a timely event featuring Buckeye's Board Vice Chairman and author Andrew O. Smith. Andrew will discuss his new book (*Financial Literacy for Millennials: A Practical Guide to Managing Your Financial Life for Teens, College Students, and Young Adults*) along with practical tips for getting your finances in order.

This event is geared to students, young professionals, and other millennials, but is open for everyone. A free introduction to financial literacy, plus drinks and snacks, and a chance to meet the author and ask your burning financial questions is hard to beat on a Thursday after work or school. Take it from us at The Buckeye Institute, Andrew O. Smith is a hit!



The Premier Nationwide Network of Liberty-minded Young Professional Leaders

Financial Literacy for Millennials

Where: The Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus

When: 6pm-7:30pm on Thursday, February 23

Cost: Free--including free drinks and hors d'oeuvres!

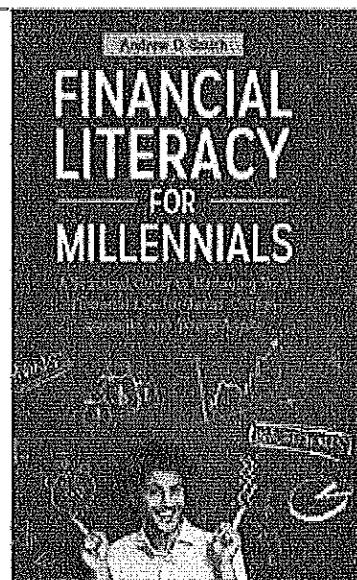
You are invited to join us for the relaunch of the Columbus chapter of America's Future Foundation! We are excited to bring together young professionals like you for networking, professional development, policy discussions, and dynamic events in Ohio's capital.

Join us as we hear from author Andrew O. Smith who'll discuss his newest book, *Financial Literacy for Millennials: A Practical Guide to Managing Your Financial Life for Teens, College Students, and Young Adults*. Smith will cover topics relevant to any young adult who is making independent financial decisions for the first time, including:

- * student loan debt
- * career planning
- * entrepreneurship
- * investments
- * avoiding financial fraud
- * saving for retirement, and more!

The book is a guide for you or anyone looking to gain a better grasp of how to make smart financial decisions.

Smith will discuss his book and participate in a Q&A session. RSVP by February 20th on AFF's Columbus chapter Facebook page or to esther@amerciasfuture.org.



Click Here to RSVP

###

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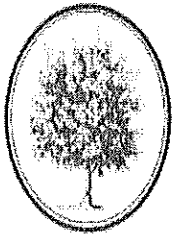
The Buckeye Institute, 88 East Broad Street,
Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:13 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: The Buckeye Institute's Fight For Military Families Becomes Ohio's Fight



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Rea S. Hederman Jr.
(614) 224-4422 or Rea@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 22, 2017

The Buckeye Institute's Fight For Ohio's Military Spouses and Families Joined By Legislators

COLUMBUS, OHIO--On Tuesday, Representatives Derek Merrin (R-Monclova Township) and Theresa Gavarone (R-Bowling Green) introduced legislation in Ohio's House based on The Buckeye Institute's idea to make it easier for the spouses of military personnel stationed in Ohio to receive an occupational license in their chosen profession.

Some of you may recall Buckeye's press release and policy brief back in November highlighting the difficulties and financial hardships experienced by military families as they move from place to place. In particular, military spouses often face significant barriers in trying to maintain an active license in their profession in each state.

As we mentioned in our brief, "The Institute for Veterans and Military Families revealed that 73 percent of military spouses with an occupational license require a renewal or reissuance of their license after being transferred to a new state."

Buckeye's report called on Ohio to recognize out-of-state licenses for military spouses. Today, we are pleased to announce that two Ohio legislators have answered that call.

Rep. Derek Merrin noted, "The Buckeye Institute is leading the way on occupational licensure reform. Buckeye's work has led to legislation that will expedite the licensure process for military members and their spouses."

Merrin and Gavarone's bill will grant full licenses to these individuals as long as the requirements for the license they held in another state are substantially similar to or more stringent than those of Ohio. For those individuals where the license they held in another state is not similar to Ohio standards, they can still obtain a "license by endorsement" and be allowed to act within their scope of practice for up to 12 months while they meet full Ohio license standards.

Greg Lawson, Senior Policy Analyst with The Buckeye Institute said, "Families of those serving our nation deserve to be able to work in their chosen profession unencumbered by red tape as they move from state to state. This policy helps reduce this unfortunate burden for the families who are already sacrificing so much."

While Ohio still desperately needs to comprehensively reform its occupational licensing regime, any policy that makes it easier for Ohioans to work (and fights for military families at the same time!) is a step in the right direction--and we are very proud to be Buckeyes today.

###

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The Buckeye Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit, and tax-exempt organization, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, it relies on support from individuals, corporations, and foundations that share a commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and limited government. The Buckeye Institute does not seek or accept government funding.

The Buckeye Institute, 88 E. Broad Street, Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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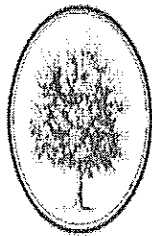
Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 7:14 AM

To: Derksen, Nick

Subject: Postponed: Today's Lunchtime Seminar on Healthcare at Buckeye



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Friends,

Here at The Buckeye Institute, we believe in sharing ideas, not germs.

Accordingly, due to an unfortunate outbreak of strep in our office, we are postponing our lunchtime seminar on healthcare policy that was scheduled for noon today. How's that for irony?

Our goal is indeed to help solve the healthcare policy crisis, not create a new one.

We have already rescheduled, and hope you will be able to join us at noon on March 28th instead. Sorry for any inconvenience, but we trust you can appreciate our sparing you all this illness.

Chicken soup and throat lozenges can be sent to our office c/o the remaining unsick Buckeye staffers. And do stay hydrated out there!

###

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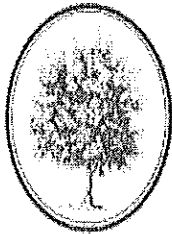
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Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Friday, March 3, 2017 4:04 AM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Hot-off-the-press study on Ohio's RPS shows devastating economic results



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Orphe Divounguy, Ph.D., Economist
(614) 224-4422 or Orphe@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 3, 2017

The Buckeye Institute Releases Brand Spanking New Study on RPS--And, Drumroll Please, It's a Doozy

COLUMBUS, OH--Early Friday morning, The Buckeye Institute's Economic Research Center (ERC) released its timely new report, The Impact of Renewables Portfolio Standards on the Ohio Economy, which demonstrates the negative economic impact of Ohio's Renewables Portfolio Standards (RPS) on Ohio's economy.

The results of the RPS study are in: If Ohio keeps RPS, tremendous economic damage will follow in its wake long after current policymakers have left office. Accordingly, this study serves as fair warning of impending economic consequences if RPS are not fixed.

By requiring electricity providers to purchase renewable energy credits (RECs), costs continue to increase--causing Ohio businesses and families to pay more for their energy over the next decade. As a result, if RPS is not permanently frozen or repealed outright, the evidence shows that families will suffer from reduced discretionary spending, businesses will hire fewer workers, and Ohio's economic growth will be stunted.

If the renewables standards continue as shown in this new Economic Research Center study, Ohio's economy would suffer from 134,000 fewer job opportunities and the state's GDP will be reduced by \$15.5 billion within 10 years. "Ohio workers and families will bear the brunt of the cost for this economically-damaging energy policy, that is RPS," reports The Buckeye Institute's lead economist Orphe Divounguy, Ph.D. "The evidence is overwhelming and convincing: this RPS mandate leads to cost increases that are essentially a tax on productive economic activity. The longer the mandate stays in effect, the more harmful its economic impact will be--as our new study shows very clearly."

The Economic Research Center employed its state-of-the-art and peer-reviewed dynamic growth model of the Ohio economy to simulate the economic effects of the RPS under various policy scenarios. These policy scenarios illustrate what would happen if, for instance, the RPS are permanently frozen at 2016 levels or take full effect. The most positive public policy scenario for Ohio's economy is RPS repeal, which allows the market to determine prices instead of government mandates.

The Buckeye Institute uses publicly available government data, employs sound academic-style research that is peer reviewed, and discloses its assumptions in an effort to be transparent about its methodology. Its Economic Research Center's economic models and calculations have been used and cited extensively in multiple states and relied upon by policymakers since the ERC's inception.

Press and legislators may contact Dr. Divounguy directly (contact information above) after reviewing the study and its results to discuss further.

#

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The Buckeye Institute, 88 E. Broad Street, Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: Wind Energy SmartBrief

Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2017 12:20 PM

To: Derksen, Nick

Subject: Opinion: Perry could carry Texas' infrastructure success to national level

Created for nick.derksen@ohiohouse.gov |

March 9, 2017

Wind Energy SmartBrief



News for wind power professionals and advocates

SIGN UP FORW

INDUSTRY UPDATE

Analysis: Wind helps Texas city become national leader in renewables

Market forces -- not climate change goals -- are propelling wind and solar in Texas and have helped the city of Georgetown become one of the first in the US to source 100% of its electricity from renewables, according to this analysis. Mayor Dale Ross attributed Georgetown's progress to the vision of former Gov. Rick Perry, under whose leadership Texas became a national leader in wind production.

[National Public Radio \(3/8\)](#)



Opinion: N.D. farms, ranches rely on revenue from wind farms

Wind development in North Dakota provides farmers and rural landowners with a steady stream of revenue and makes it possible for those landowners to continue to operate their family farms and ranches, writes David Day. He urges state lawmakers to reject a bill that would set new siting requirements for turbines, adding that it has the potential to deter investments in the state's wind industry.

[The Forum \(Fargo, N.D.-Moorhead, Minn.\) \(3/8\)](#)



BNEF: European offshore wind costs surpass nuclear, near coal

The cost of offshore wind development has fallen 46% in Europe over the past five years -- and 22% in the past year alone -- surpassing the cost of nuclear and closing in on that of coal, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance. Dong Energy CEO Henrik Poulsen added that with a large enough site and good wind speeds, offshore wind could reach grid parity with coal in many parts of the world, the US included.

[Bloomberg](#) (3/9)



PROJECT FOCUS

Xcel plans May construction start for 600-MW wind farm in Colo.

Xcel Energy hopes to break ground on its 600-megawatt Rush Creek project in Colorado in May, according to the company. The project, which will be built by Mortenson, will feature 300 Vestas V112-2-MW machines.

[ReNews.biz \(U.K.\)](#) (3/9)



EDP Renewables cancels meteorological tower in N.H.

EDP Renewables has nixed plans to build a meteorological tower in New Hampshire's Newfound Lake area, the company said Wednesday.

[Union Leader \(Manchester, N.H.\)](#) (3/9)



GE to partner with Turkish firms on wind farm

General Electric has entered into a memorandum of understanding with a trio of Turkish developers including Borusan EnBW Enerji, to jointly install, finance and operate the Yeka wind farm in Turkey, said the company. "The Yeka project, which will diversify Turkey's energy portfolio, is thus critical for Turkey to achieve its goals in renewable energy," added GE MENAT Onshore Wind Energy General Manager Ruhan Temeltas.

[ReNews.biz \(U.K.\)](#) (3/8)



ECONOMY, ENERGY & TRENDS

Opinion: Free energy market encourages healthy competition

A free energy market, especially the kind that encourages better air quality through renewable energy development, encourages healthy competition, writes Lucas Wagner. The two-year moratorium on wind development now under consideration in North Dakota would have made a free market impossible in the state, he writes.

[The Forum \(Fargo, N.D.-Moorhead, Minn.\) \(3/8\)](#)



POLICY WATCH

Opinion: Perry could carry Texas' infrastructure success to national level



Perry (Spencer Platt/Getty Images)

Energy Secretary Rick Perry could do for the entire US what he did for Texas in terms of transmission and infrastructure, writes Dan William Reicher, executive director of the Steyer-Taylor Center for Energy Policy and Finance. Perry has the opportunity helped fund a trillion-dollar infrastructure program and advocate long-distance transmission buildouts, he writes.

[The Hill \(3/8\)](#)



Trump administration could cut clean energy funding by \$700M, sources say

The Office of Management and Budget may propose a minimum of \$700 million in budget cuts for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, which currently receives \$2.1 billion annually, according to three sources. The White House is expected to publish its official budget proposal next week.

[Bloomberg \(3/8\)](#)



AWEA NEWS

AWEA's Community Engagement Seminar series: Let's learn from each other


Ask any wind farm developer, and they'll tell you the most successful projects are in communities that want them. But how can we help ensure that happens? What are the best ways to mobilize the vast majority of people who support wind power while addressing the concerns that are natural for any major project? The next installment of AWEA's Community Engagement Seminar series tackles exactly these questions. Join us on March 22 in Austin, Texas for a post-conference event titled "Community Engagement Seminar III: Mobilizing Supporters, Defusing Opposition." Read more.



Ohio special interest group hides renewables' consumer and job-creation benefits

Ohio's Buckeye Institute, which has been funded by the fossil fuel and tobacco industries, has released a report that uses misleading and out-of-date information to attack clean energy. Most notably, the report assumes the cost of renewable energy is five times higher than reality. In addition, the report ignores how renewable energy benefits consumers by reducing the cost of electricity. Once those errors are corrected, the report's method actually shows that renewable energy creates jobs and is a net benefit for Ohio consumers. Read more.



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Watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you, because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in the magic will never find it.

Roald Dahl,
writer



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From: Wind Energy SmartBrief
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 12:07 PM
To: Derksen, Nick
Subject: Corporate demand is driving US wind, solar growth, says Moody's

Created for nick.derksen@ohiohouse.gov |

March 14, 2017

Wind Energy SmartBrief



News for wind power professionals and advocates

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INDUSTRY UPDATE

Corporate demand is driving US wind, solar growth, says Moody's

Corporate demand -- not state mandates -- has become the top driving force behind wind and solar growth in the US, said Moody's Investors Service on Friday. The report advised developers to pursue power purchase agreements with corporate buyers, adding that states have less authority as more and more of them reach their current renewable portfolio standards.

[Bloomberg \(3/10\)](#)



Analysis: The US offshore wind "gold rush" is underway

Twenty-three offshore wind farms with a combined capacity of about 16 gigawatts are under various stages of development in the US, according to this analysis, which argues that the transition to offshore wind is already well underway. Observers say if the industry follows the Energy Department's projections that US offshore wind will hit 86 GW by 2050, it would create up to 600,000 new jobs over the next 10 years.

[Fortune \(3/14\)](#)



Opinion: Md. lawmakers should support wind, join Climate Solutions Caucus

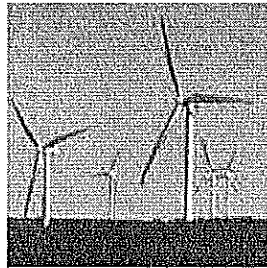
Maryland lawmakers should support wind development, including offshore wind, as one of several ways to reduce fossil fuel generation and to safeguard against the risks of fracking, writes Danielle Lucid. She also urges Maryland's representatives to join the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus.

[The Baltimore Sun](#) (3/13)



PROJECT FOCUS

Star Wind, Ralls team up to add 1 GW of wind capacity in North America



(Pascal Guyot/AFP/Getty Images)

Ralls and Star Wind will work together to develop and operate wind farms with a combined capacity of 1 gigawatt in North America, according to the company. They said that they plan to develop the projects over the next five years.

[ReNews.biz \(U.K.\)](#) (3/13)



EDF EN launches 66.5-MW project in France

EDF Energies Nouvelles has begun operations at its 26-turbine, 66.5-megawatt Montagne Ardecho project in France, according to the company. It added that it employed about 150 temporary worker during the construction process, and will create six permanent jobs.

[ReNews.biz \(U.K.\)](#) (3/14)



SEE begins building 18-MW wind farm in Ireland

SSE has begun building an 18-megawatt wind farm in County Kerry, Ireland, that will feature nine turbines, according to the company. "With the wind farm due to be fully operational this time next year there is a lot of work to do in the next six months in advance of turbine delivery," said Leanamore Project Manager Seamus Lynch.

[ReNews.biz \(U.K.\)](#) (3/13)



ECONOMY, ENERGY & TRENDS

EIA: Transportation emissions now higher than electricity emissions

The Energy Information Administration says carbon emissions produced by electric power generation in 2016 were less than those produced from transportation. EIA also notes that wind and solar power output are expected to increase, as are coal power generation and production.

[Power Engineering International](#) (3/9)



POLICY WATCH

Study calling for Ohio RPS repeal is flawed, say clean energy supporters

A study from the Buckeye Institute arguing for why Ohio's renewable portfolio standard should be repealed is flawed and inconsistent with other reports, according to clean energy advocates from the Ohio Environmental Council, Natural Resources Defense Council and other groups. The American Wind Energy Association added that the report was based on renewable energy credit pricing from a year in which FirstEnergy overpaid, and not on regular data.

[Midwest Energy News](#) (3/13)



Climate action remains a priority for D.C., says mayor

Washington, D.C., will continue to combat climate change using renewable energy and other measures, said Mayor Muriel Bowser. "More than ever when federal policies are uncertain, we know cities can get a lot accomplished -- and influence national policy," she said.

[Reuters](#) (3/14)




AWEA NEWS

Broad coalition ask Congress to invest in America's electricity grid

A [diverse group](#) of businesses from the energy, manufacturing, construction and environmental sectors sent a letter to Congressional leaders today calling for investment in America's electricity grid.

The coalition reminded lawmakers that ensuring reliable access to affordable electricity is necessary to keep business strong. [Read more.](#)



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Life is not lost by dying! Life is lost minute by minute, day by dragging day, in all the thousand, small, uncaring ways.

Stephen Vincent Benet,
writer



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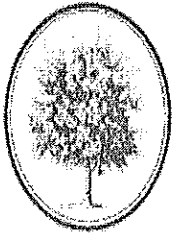
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From: The Buckeye Institute

Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 12:34 PM

To: Derksen, Nick

Subject: Your Buckeye Institute won big at U.S. Supreme Court today--even if your bracket went down in flames



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Daniel Dew, Criminal Justice Fellow
(614) 224-4422 or Daniel@BuckeyeInstitute.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2017

The Buckeye Institute Secures Tremendous Victory Against Obama Administration with U.S. Supreme Court Ruling Tuesday Morning--No Disrespect to March Madness

COLUMBUS, OHIO--Your Buckeye Institute enjoys college hoops as much as anyone else--and we're not even going to mention Ohio State's basketball team--but a much more important and lasting win happened today.

In late September, The Buckeye Institute filed a brief asking the U.S. Supreme Court to serve as a check on overreach committed by the Obama administration.

And this morning, for old times' sake, the U.S. Supreme Court gave a special final sendoff to President Obama's pen and phone.

In the Court's opinion Tuesday morning ruling in favor of the challenger (and yours truly), Chief Justice Roberts wrote for the majority, "The glitch in th[e government's] argument is of course the text of [the statute]."*